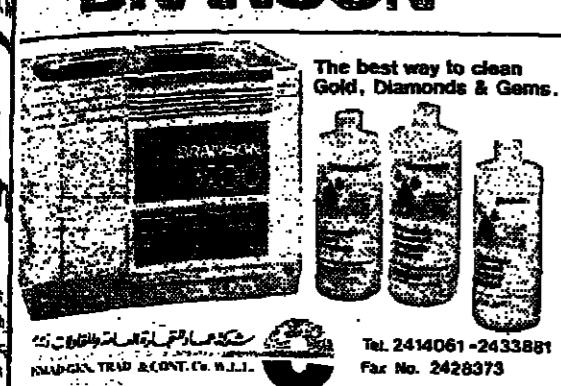


BRANSON

NO. 7511

Radicals active
67 killed
in Sri
Lanka
violence

COLOMBO, March 20, (UPI): Slayers linked to a drive by Sinhalese radicals to topple the government left 67 people dead across Sri Lanka, including 15 young men apparently killed in retaliation for the landmine deaths of three police officers, officials said today.

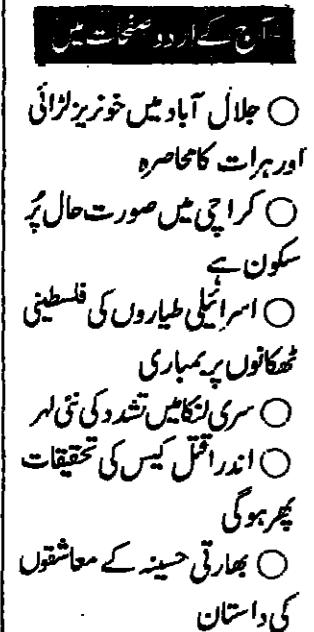
A senior police official reported the Janatha Vimukhti Peramuna (JVP) shot dead 49 victims overnight in central, northern and southern areas during a slew of overnight attacks he believed were in response to 10 days of search operations that had netted some 1,500 suspected extremists.

The radicals from the majority Buddhist Sinhalese community have for more than 18 months waged their drive aimed at unseating the government in response to its acceptance of an Indian-brokered plan to end a five-year-old rebellion in the north and east by minority Hindu Tamils.

In the most serious action, they said radicals yesterday detonated a landmine beneath a police patrol vehicle as it passed through Palugaswewa village, 130 miles (210 km) northeast of Colombo, instantly killing one officer and critically wounding five others, two of whom later died in hospital.

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**WEATHER**

FAIR weather with light to moderate north-westerly wind.
State of sea: slight to moderate.
High water: 12:00 pm
Low water: 6:00 am, 6:00 pm
Sunrise: 5:31 am
Sunset: 6:00 pm
Maximum temperatures recorded:
Kuwait: 23°C / 73°F
Ahmadi: 20°C / 70°F
Falak: 20°C / 70°F
Minimum temperatures recorded:
Kuwait: 12°C / 54°F
Ahmadi: 15°C / 59°F
Falak: 15°C / 59°F
Maximum temperatures expected:
Kuwait: 34°C / 75°F
Ahmadi: 22°C / 72°F
Falak: 21°C / 70°F
Maximum humidity recorded:
Kuwait: 91 per cent
Ahmadi: 74 per cent
Falak: 75 per cent

Iran to hold military exercises in Gulf

TEHRAN, March 20, (KUNA): Joint land and sea military exercises will be carried out by the Iranian armed forces in the Arabian Gulf and the Sea of Oman late next month, the official Iranian news agency, IRNA has reported.

Naval units, Air Force planes, and Army airborne units would join in the exercises, IRNA said.

ARAB TIMES

TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 1989

SHABAN 14, 1409 AH

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March 21 - 27, 1989

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Kuwait International Hotel

18 PAGES 150 FILS

20 die as Israeli jets blast bases

Palestinian guerrilla chief threatens attacks

BAR ELIAS, March 20, (Agencies): Israeli warplanes rocketed Palestinian bases in eastern Lebanon today, killing 20 people in the deepest thrust in Syrian-held territory this year, police and Palestinian sources said.

Police said six Israeli warplanes raided three times slamming rockets into two bases of the Damascus-based Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine — General Command near the

village of Bar Elias, six miles (nine km) west of the Syrian border. At least 20 people, including 10 guerrillas, were killed and 20 others were wounded, police said.

A spokesman for the group in Beirut told United Press International that among the dead guerrillas was a member of the PFLP-GC's central committee, but refused to identify the official.

Abu Ibrahim, a PFLP-GC official in eastern Lebanon, said many people were missing, believed buried under the rubble of the two bases which were used as logistical positions.

But the group's leader, Ahmed Jibril, said in a statement in Beirut, "such raids will not prevent us from continuing the struggle." The group has recently launched attacks against Israel across southern Lebanon.

Police said rockets hit a small house near the bases, destroying it and killing all its 10 Lebanese inhabitants.

Witnesses said Palestinian and Syrian anti-aircraft batteries opened fire at the raiding planes, but missed the targets.

They said at least 50 civil and military vehicles were destroyed and huge craters were dug in the ground.

In Jerusalem, a military spokesman said Israeli "Air Force planes attacked terrorist targets in the area of the Beekaa" valley. The spokesman said all the planes returned and the targets were hit.

The targets which were attacked served as terror bases for the Ahmed Jibril organisation. Jibril leads the Damascus-based PFLP-GC, which is opposed to PLO chairman Yasser Arafat.

Meanwhile, artillery fighting between Army troops — commanded by Christian Gen. Michel Aoun — and militiamen of Walid Jumblat's mainly-Druze Progressive Socialist Party engulfed Beirut and hills overlooking the capital, on the eighth day of sectarian violence.

Police said the heaviest fighting centred in and around Souk Al Gharb, an Army hilltop garrison, seven miles (11 km) south-east of Beirut.

Kuwait's Ambassador to Syria, Ahmed Al Jassem, drove to Beirut and met with several Muslim leaders, including acting Prime Minister Salim Hoss, who heads the Muslim cabinet in the dual government, and Parliament Speaker Hussein Hussaini.

Jassem, who plans to meet with Christian leaders tomorrow, said he came to deliver invitations to former Lebanese presidents and prime ministers to hold talks at the Arab League's Tunis headquarters on March 25 with the six-member mediation committee.

"All parties welcome the American role, particularly at this stage, which is witnessing greater detente between the two superpowers, a clearer definition of the constructive Soviet position and entrenchment of an effective (West) European role."

This seemed to be his answer to recent statements by President George Bush and other American officials of a cautious, deliberate approach toward formulation of Washington's policy on Arab-Israeli peacekeeping.

Mubarak's remarks also reflected Cairo's long-standing conviction that Washington had the key to peace efforts. The US mediated the 1979 Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty, 10 years old this week.

(Continued on Page 4)

Israel 'must' talk to PLO

Upgrade talks, US told

Mubarak urges US to activate peace role

CAIRO, March 20, (AP): It's time for the United States to activate its role as peacemaker to settle the Arab-Israeli conflict, President Hosni Mubarak said today.

He also said in a parliamentary speech that Israel's return of a beach enclave to Egyptian control last week will have "good effects" not only on bilateral relations but also on prospects for an Arab-Israeli peace settlement.

And once again he urged Israel to stop opposing an international peace conference, which he said he sees as an umbrella for the direct Arab-Israeli peace negotiations wanted by the Jewish state's leaders.

"We believe conditions are propitious for activation of the American role," Mubarak told a joint session of the People's Assembly, Egypt's legislature, and the Shura Council, a consultative body of elders.

"All parties welcome the American role, particularly at this stage, which is witnessing greater detente between the two superpowers, a clearer definition of the constructive Soviet position and entrenchment of an effective (West) European role."

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(See Rushdie backlash — Page 4)

Ethnic leaders appeal for calm in Karachi

KARACHI, March 20, (Reuters): Ethnic leaders in Karachi appealed today for an end to communal riots in Pakistan's biggest city which have killed at least 29 people in 10 days.

In separate appeals, leaders of Pashtuns from the north-west, Punjabis from central Pakistan and Mohajir immigrants urged their communities to shun violence and restore calm.

"Every Pakistani wants peace," Ghulam Mustafa Khar, a former Punjab governor, told reporters when he arrived in Karachi for

talks with ethnic leaders.

Pashtun leader Ghulam Sarwar Awan and Altaf Hussain, representing the Mohajir migrants, who came to Pakistan from other parts of former British India after partition in 1947, also spoke out for an end to the bloodshed.

The provincial government in Sind, which is a coalition between Benazir's Pakistan People's Party and the Mohajirs, is to set up broad-based peace committees to try to check the violence, a spokesman said today.

At least seven people with bullet wounds were brought to government hospitals from curfew areas last night, doctors said.

Troops are enforcing the curfew in seven districts of east Karachi, but residents said by telephone that sniper fire could still be heard.

Police said the city of more than seven million people was generally calm today.

■ Lahore: Three thousand Christians carrying crosses and waving placards marched through Lahore today protesting delays in construction of a church (AP).

Conspiracy to kill Indira India to charge four

NEW DELHI, March 20, (UPI): The government plans to charge at least four people for conspiring to assassinate Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, but has cleared one of her aides allegedly implicated in the murder who now advises her son and successor, a report said today.

The Press Trust of India quoted "highly placed official sources" as saying at least two of the alleged conspirators were already in custody, and that authorities within one month would probably start proceedings against two other people for involvement in the Oct. 31, 1984 slaying.

It was the first official indication that others may be linked to Indira's death at the hands of two Sikh security guards, an action for which one of the gunmen and a second Sikh were hanged on Jan. 6.

Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi since Tuesday has been engulfed in a controversy sparked by a newspaper report that a special commission probing Indira's murder had questioned the possible involvement of R.K. Dhawan, her most trusted aide and now a senior adviser to her son.

Rajiv on Friday said he would release at the next meeting of Parliament on March 27 the report by the commission headed by Supreme Court Justice M.P. Thakkar, a document the government has suppressed since May 1985 on the grounds of national security.

The prime minister said he wished to end "wilful distortion, malicious innuendo and irresponsible character assassination" sparked by the disclosures.

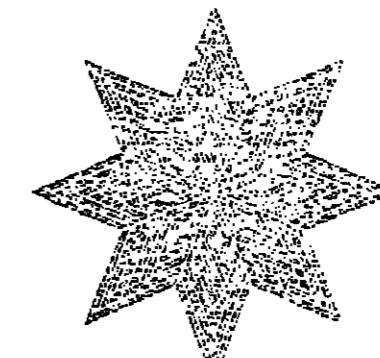
Publication of excerpts of the Thakkar Commission report by the anti-government Indian Express newspaper caused two days of disruptive outbursts by opposition legislators, leading to the temporary suspension of 63 lower house members and a boycott of the upper house by opponents of Rajiv's Congress (I) Party.

The prime minister pledged that "necessary follow-up action will be taken," and the sources told the Press Trust that a special police investigation team had completed a report on the disclosures and had advised authorities to file a charge sheet against at least four people.

The sources said the order was "likely to be passed soon," but they refused to disclose the identity of the accused, except to say that Dhawan was not among them.

A "detailed and thorough investigation" by the police team had found Dhawan was "totally innocent," they said, reiterating an assertion by other officials that sleuths had cleared the senior aide.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

AIDS death

MANILA, March 20, (Reuters): A 24-year-old prostitute who worked outside a US Air Force base is the first person to die in the Philippines from locally transmitted AIDS, a Manila health official said today.

The 19 other known AIDS cases in the country have involved either foreigners or Filipinos who got the disease abroad. Twelve of these victims have died.

Compensation

MANAMA, March 20, (AP): The US government has agreed to pay about \$18,000 in compensation to the family of an Indian fisherman, killed in a 1987 shooting incident involving an American warship in the Gulf, US diplomatic sources said today.

The sources said the settlement was reached with relatives of Jagdish Baghwan, 22, of Gujarat, India.

High rate of measles

WASHINGTON, March 20, (UPI): As many as 2,000 Americans have developed measles this year and at least 10 victims have died—an unusually high rate that has prompted health officials to consider new strategies against a disease once hoped to be extinct by now.

Detainees escape

PRETORIA, March 20, (Reuter): Four South African student activists escaped from police custody in hospital today and took refuge in the West German embassy, where they demanded the release of detainees held in "apartheid dungeons."

Pyle, 45, dies

MILWAUKEE, March 20, (AP): Steven J. Pyle, an Associated Press photographer whose assignments took him from Papal travels in Latin America to Super Bowls and Olympic Games, has died. He was 45.

Trial of coup plotters

COLOMBO, March 20, (AP): The trial of four Maldivians accused of participating in last year's attempt to overthrow Maldives President Maumoon Abdul Gayoom has begun, an official of the Indian Ocean archipelago said today.

GUNMEN KILL FATHER OF 13 IN BELFAST

BELFAST, March 20, (AP): A father of 13 was shot to death in north Belfast last night as he and his wife were praying.

Neighbours said two gunmen stormed into the house in the city's Ardoyne area and shot David Braniff, 63, in the kitchen. They said he died with his rosary in his hands beside his wife, Mary.

No group had claimed responsibility for the killing by last evening, but local Parliament Member Cecil Walker described it "blatantly sectarian."

If so, Braniff, a Roman Catholic, the third person



Roh shelves referendum plan

SEOUL, March 20, (Reuters): South Korean President Roh Tae-Woo, resisting government hawks, today called off a referendum which many feared would provoke a constitutional crisis.

Roh said on national television he was indefinitely postponing the "interim assessment" he promised during the 1987 election campaign.

He said he feared radicals would try to exploit a vote to fasten. Right-wing members of the ruling camp had previously raised the so-called leftist threat to try to push the President into

risking a national confidence vote.

Perhaps surprisingly in view of this country's turbulent politics, the three opposition parties all issued statements approving the President's move.

Analysts said all three, while fearing a loss of their present majority position in the National Assembly, were also genuinely concerned at the possibility of political tensions which could put at risk recent democratic reforms after years of Army-backed strongman rule.

The extra-parliamentary

opposition, however, remained combative. The main dissident coalition said Roh's decision "insulted our people" while radical students battled riot police in demonstrations in Seoul and the southeastern city of Kwangju.

Though the mainstream parties had already begun gearing up for the plebiscite, expected on or about April 12, the President today called a halt.

"Not a few have maintained that the authority of the President and the administration would be strengthened by win-

ning a vote of confidence through a national referendum, even though this would entail some commotion," Roh said on television.

"However, I have come to the conclusion that such concern and anxiety must not be inflicted on the people, regardless of the outcome."

"It is my belief as President that, under no circumstance, should I do anything that would bring about divisiveness and confusion."

Last week a leading hawk in the cabinet, Government

Administration Minister Kim Yong-Kap, resigned in an apparent bid to put pressure on Roh.

He said the President should use the referendum opportunity to crack down on radical students and dissidents and what he called "the menace of leftism."

His voice was countered by the country's most influential opposition leader Kim Dae-Jung, the veteran democracy campaigner who now heads the Party for Peace and Democracy (PPD).

Congress opens

Li Peng calls for greater thrift

BEIJING, March 20, (AP): Premier Li Peng today opened the annual session of China's huge Communist Party-dominated legislature with a call for greater thrift, hard work and discipline to overcome worsening economic problems.

"Both government and people should be mentally prepared for a few years of austerity," Li told 2,768 delegates gathered at the Great Hall of the People in central Beijing.

"If we set a good example and explain clearly to the people the need for tightening our belts, they will surely understand and support it," he said.

The only exceptions Li made to the tight-money policy were agriculture and education. Both sectors are considered key to development but critics say they have been given low priority in recent state budgets in favour of exciting projects.

The tone of Li's speech contrasted sharply with that of last year's congress, which called for bold new efforts to move the economy away from rigid central planning that had long stifled growth. Since then, however, inflation has climbed to a post-war record rate of 36 per cent, and overheated demand has caused shortages, hoarding and several bank runs.

Li blamed the economic problems on "a tendency to be too impatient for quick results."

Population

"More often than not we tended to ignore the fact that China has a huge population, is relatively short of resources and has an unevenly developed economy," Li said in a lengthy criticism of policies in the recent past that he helped shape.

"We ... did not pay sufficient attention to taking comprehensive and co-ordinated measures and failed to tighten control and supervision at the right moment," he said. "We were too optimistic."

Li delivered his more than two-hour-long speech largely in a monotone, clearing his throat frequently and rarely looking up.

He was interrupted by enthusiastic applause when he reaffirmed China's claim to sovereignty over Tibet and denounced any foreign support of Tibetan separation as "outrageous interference in China's internal affairs."

40 drowned

BEIJING, March 20, (UPI): A boat jammed with triple its safe capacity of passengers capsized on a river in South China, pitching dozens of people into the water and drowning more than 40, the semi-official China news service reported.

The report said the accident occurred last Friday at Hengshan city on the Xiang River in Hunan province and was the worst in the river's recorded navigation history.

No peace treaty signed
Japanese-Soviet talks fail

TOKYO, March 20, (AP): A meeting between Soviet and Japanese diplomats failed to produce any new agreements toward a peace treaty between the two countries, technically at war since 1945, officials said today.

Instead, most of the talks were devoted to issues concerning Asia in general, including Soviet-China relations and tensions on the Korean peninsula.

But regarding bilateral affairs, the official quoted Kuriyama as saying that the two nations "have not created a sufficient political foundation" to sign a peace treaty.

Participating in the talks were Deputy Foreign

Row over Swedish bugging scandal

STOCKHOLM, March 20, (Reuters): Swedish secret policemen believed senior figures in the ruling Social Democratic Party were in contact with terrorists, according to new revelations in the country's bugging scandal.

Furthermore, a series of often contradictory statements over the weekend has painted a picture of a secret police force in considerable disarray, with allegations that officers took initiatives without authority.

The government last Friday said it had uncovered a plot by officers of the SAPO security police to eavesdrop on Deputy Foreign Minister Pierre Schori part of the hunt for the murderer of Prime Minister Olof Palme.

The officers were interested in Schori because of his contacts with a French professor of Kurdish studies, whom they believed may have been connected with the 1986 assassination of Palme, according to Swedish press reports.

Palme was shot by a lone gunman while walking home from a cinema. Police at the time were convinced that he was the victim of a political plot and focused their inquiries on a left-wing Kurdish organisation.

But the Kurdish theory later disintegrated and police are currently holding a 41-year-old Swede as the suspected murderer.

The decision to bug Schori appeared to have been taken without either the head of the secret police or the politicians responsible for overseeing its actions being consulted.

"There was no conceivable interest from the security police as an organisation to plan surveillance of Pierre Schori," said SAPO chief Sune Sandstrom, who called the deputy minister to apologise for the action of his men.

Opposition stages rally in Athens

ATHENS, March 20, (AP): More than 200,000 opposition New Democracy Party followers yesterday staged a rally in central Athens to protest the government's alleged involvement in a financial scandal.

Addressing the rally, party leader Constantine Mitsotakis called for the socialist government to resign for humiliating Greece's international image and undermining democratic institutions.

"I accuse the premier of deceiving the Greek people with illusory visions and abusing their trust in him ... by instituting a corrupt state," Mitsotakis said.

Channon under pressure to quit

Bomb warning posted after new year

LONDON, March 20, (Agencies): Transport Secretary Paul Channon was under pressure today to explain or resign over his department's handling of warnings about the type of bomb believed to have brought down Pan Am Flight 103.

Britain's opposition leaders have demanded that Channon explain to the House of Commons the sequence of events that resulted in Pan Am receiving a warning about a cassette-player bomb nearly a month after the explosion.

The first warnings went out in November after the West German raid.

Channon's department admitted yesterday it alerted airlines to the type of bomb that destroyed Flight 103 with a Dec. 19-dated letter. The exact date the letters were mailed has not been disclosed.

The government admitted yesterday that a letter dated December 19 — two days before the crash — was not sent to airlines until early January.

A Transport Department spokesman said it was delayed because colour photographs of a suspect radio cassette recorder had to be prepared.

Pan Am said it did not

receive the warning until Jan. 17.

Channon has said the warning was "totally unimportant" because his department sent a telex on Nov. 22 which contained the vital information about the bomb.

"Channon must provide a full explanation of the delay ... his department was remarkably incompetent and irresponsible," said "Bryan Gould," Labour's trade and industry spokesman.

Gould added that Channon should resign if he could not reveal the exact details.

Channon maintains he has already said as much as he could without jeopardizing investigations of the bombing.

The evening standard, meanwhile, reported that police believe the bomb contained only one or two pounds (400 to 900 grams) of the powerful plastic explosive semtex moulded into a radio-cassette player.

Forensic experts are certain the bomb's impact was a massive fluke," the newspaper reported.

"A baggage handler placed it, quite by chance, next to a stressed, riveted seam in the aircraft's hold. When the bomb went off, it destroyed about two dozen rivets, and the jumbo jet's skin was pierced," the newspaper was demonstrated.

The radio-cassette player contained a plastic explosive and a timing device that authorities have said are the same as those used in the Pan Am bombing.

The newspaper said that because of the bomb's position in the hold, British investigators are "99 per cent certain" it did not originate in Britain.

Flight 103 originated in Frankfurt, West Germany and transferred to a larger plane at London's Heathrow airport, before taking off for New York on Dec. 21.

In Bonn, a statement by Interior Ministry spokesman Roland Bachmeier said West German authorities showed British experts a bomb disguised as a radio-cassette player five weeks before the Pan Am accident.

British authorities acknowledged yesterday that a warning about such a disguised bomb was not mailed to airlines until after the tragedy.

Bachmeier said British authorities attended a briefing by the West German Federal Crime Bureau on Nov. 15 at which an explosive device hidden in a radio-cassette player was demonstrated.

The radio-cassette player contained a plastic explosive and a timing device that authorities have said are the same as those used in the Pan Am bombing.

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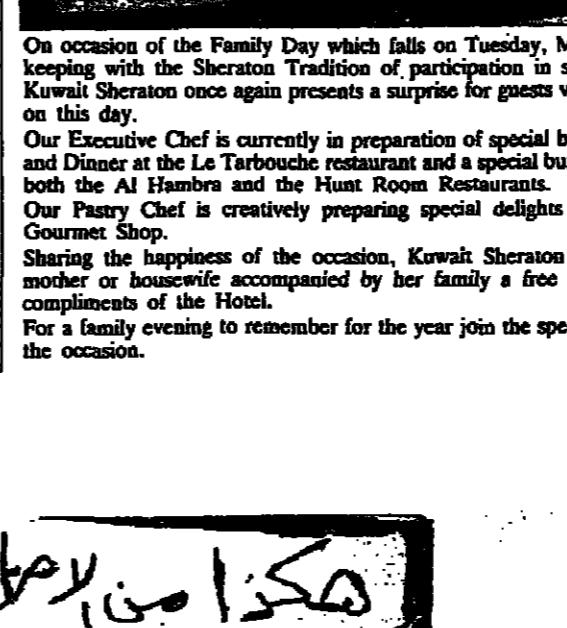
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INTERNATIONAL

ARAB TIMES, TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 1989

Nineteen die as US helicopter explodes

SEOUL, March 20, (AP): Nineteen US Marines were killed and 16 others injured today when a helicopter exploded in a remote mountainous area in the second fatal Marine air crash in South Korea in four days, officials said.

A Marine Corps official said the large troop-carrying Sikorsky CH-53D Sea Stallion helicopter crashed near the port of Pohang on the southeastern coast while taking part in exercises with South Korean forces.

Officials initially said 22 Marines were killed in the crash, but later lowered the figure to 19 because of confusion in early reports from the crash site. The injured included 15 Marines aboard the helicopter and one

injured on the ground during rescue operations, they said.

Nine of the injured were listed in very serious condition with burns.

The helicopter, assigned to the 1st Marine Air Wing based at Futenma Marine Corps air station in Okinawa, Japan, was carrying four crewmen and 30

Marine infantrymen, the spokesman said.

The infantrymen were from the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines of the 1st Marine division based at Camp Pendleton, California, he said.

Marine officials said they had no immediate word on what caused the crash. Little of the

helicopter was left but charred pieces of wreckage.

Yonhap, the South Korean news agency, cited South Korean military officials as saying that the helicopter exploded in midair and burst into flames before crashing into the ground. The report said the helicopter appeared to experience an engine problem.

Soviet elections

All the eyes on Yeltsin

MOSCOW, March 20, (Reuter): Boris Yeltsin, cheered by thousands of Muscovites but under investigation by the ruling Communist Party, has emerged as the focal point in next Sunday's multi-candidate Soviet elections.

Some 7,000 protesters marched through the centre of Moscow on Sunday to back the disgraced former Moscow party chief and junior politburo member — the first such demonstration in the capital since the late 1920s.

On Saturday, a similar crowd outside a suburban supermarket roared approval when Yeltsin denounced the commission set up last week by the party's central committee to probe allegations that he had deviated from the party line during the campaign.

"Hands of Yeltsin, down with the commission," shouted the demonstrators, who massed in front of the Moscow City Council and demanded to see Lev Zaikov, Yeltsin's successor as Moscow party chief.

No one emerged from the locked building, though several people hung out of an upstairs window to film the crowd.

Protest

The protesters shouted support for Yeltsin's call for an end to special privileges enjoyed by senior party leaders. Many also complained that Soviet television crews had not joined Western teams filming the protest.

"You'll see this in your country, but we won't see it on television here," one man told correspondents.

There was no mention of the demonstration either on the

evening television news or by the official Tass news agency.

The protesters, many sporting Yeltsin badges or carrying placards, had marched in disciplined formation to the red colonnaded building from Gorky Park, where authorities had cancelled an election rally at short notice.

Some protesters, angered that police had failed to provide them with a megaphone, began shouting "On to Red Square."

Scuffles broke out briefly as they were stopped by a three-deep cordon of police and a barricade of buses quickly set up across the street.

A senior police officer produced a megaphone and demonstrators regrouped to deliver speeches opposite the council offices — at the foot of a monument to Moscow's legendary founder, Yuri Dolgoruky.

Yeltsin has been accused by some party officials, including conservative politburo member Yegor Ligachev, of being ambitious and a demagogue. Ligachev was also a target of Sunday's demonstrators.

But his programme has been embraced by many ordinary people increasingly weary of chronic shortages of food and other basic goods.

"He may not be squeaky clean, but you show me a man in this day and age without shortcomings," said one demonstrator in her sixties.

The protesters at Sunday's demonstration approved by a show of hands an appeal to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev demanding the dissolution of the commission investigating Yeltsin.

Pearl Harbour attack

US ignored warning

PERTH, Australia, March 20, (Reuter): A retired journalist who was close to Australian wartime Prime Minister John Curtin said today that Curtin twice warned Britain and the United States of an impending Japanese attack before Pearl Harbour.

Curtin's warnings were apparently ignored and Japan launched its attack on the US Pacific Naval Base at Pearl Harbour on Dec 7, 1941, prompting the United States to enter the war.

Although Bennett did not go into detail, the Post reported that Bennett hopes to put a strike force in the nation's capital by early next month to target repeat drug offenders. They try to shut down the district's 90 open-air drug markets and to take measures to reduce the city's soaring homicide rate.

"We're looking at a whole range of things," Bennett said of efforts to control the drug trade in the nation's capital. "We did not declare Washington a high-intensity drug trafficking area. We are looking at whether we should or not."

The key, Bennett said, will be to redeploy existing resources to get hold of this situation in Washington.

Difference
District of Columbia Mayor Marion Barry disputed the notion that the drug trade in the nation's capital should be focal point of the administration's efforts, arguing that the federal government should focus its attention on New York, Los Angeles and Miami — supposed drug-import capitals.

"These murders are driven by drugs, by crack. Cocaine and heroin is not grown in America. It's brought here from abroad," Barry said on another American television programme.

"The national government needs to go to these five or six countries in South and Central America, send the Army, the Navy, the Air Force, Marines, the Coast Guard, burn up those fields, eradicate those coca leaves ... stop it at its source," Barry said.

Berry brushed aside questions about the quality of his leadership in the drug war.

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Arabs and Westerners win King Faisal Award

Riyadh, March 20, (AP): Crown Prince Abdullah Bin Abdul Aziz distributed this year's King Faisal Awards to eight winners, including four Westerners, at a ceremony last night.

The prestigious awards, which had been announced earlier, are distributed annually to honour excellence in the fields of science, medicine, Arabic literature, Islamic studies and service to Islam.

This year's winners included two Americans, a German, a Briton, two Egyptians, an Iraqi and a Syrian.

Luigi Mastroianni, an American, shared the prize in medicine with Briton Robert Geoffrey Edwards.

He later told the Associated Press that the award "is one of the four major prizes in the world in the fields of science and medicine," adding, "the fact that Saudi Arabia is doing this is astounding."

Mastroianni, whose speciality is infertility, is professor of obstetrics and gynaecology, and director of the division of human reproduction at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine.

His team currently runs a leading invitro-fertilisation programme in the United States.

Edwards, a professor of human reproduction at the University of Cambridge, was one of the doctors who assisted in the successful birth of the world's first test-tube baby in 1978.

Prof. Ahmed Zewail, an Egyptian-born American of the California Institute of Technology, told the Associated Press that winning the prizes in science was of special significance to him because "I am the first American-Arab that ever won this prize, and the first Arab to win it in science or medicine."

Zewail won the award for his pioneering research in the field of spectroscopy and his contribution toward the realisation of laser-driven chemical reactions. He shared the prize with Dr Theodore Hansch, a professor of physics at the University of Munich, West Germany, for his work in laser physics.

The prize for Islamic education achievement went to 72-year-old Egyptian exponent of the Islamic faith, Mohammed Al Ghazali.

US bid to bar fuel shipment

Iran-bound scarce chemical

LOS ANGELES, March 20, (Agencies): The US Customs Service is trying to block the shipment of a scarce rocket fuel chemical, claiming the material is bound for Iran where it could supply up to 300 military missiles, it was reported yesterday.

But a federal judge in Houston has issued a temporary injunction requiring the government to release the 1,144 drums of ammonium perchlorate, ruling it was not covered by the restricted munitions list and the Customs Service failed to prove it was bound for Iran, the Los Angeles Times reported.

The 286,000 pounds of the rocket fuel component was originally shipped in January of 1988 from Houston by Grindlays Corp., of Tampa, Florida. It was seized the following month as it was being loaded onto the Iranian freighter in the Dutch port of Rotterdam.

The shipment was made during the Iran-Iraq war, when the two nations were using surface-to-surface missiles.

Grindlays contends it never intended to sell the chemical to Iran. The shipping bill of lading shows it was bound for a buyer in Basel, Switzerland.

Compounding the Customs Service's difficulties in fighting the shipment is an apparent lack of co-operation among government departments, the Times reported.

Warming up ties

Fahd to visit Egypt

CAIRO, March 20, (AP): King Fahd of Saudi Arabia will begin a three-day official visit to Egypt this weekend. President Hosni Mubarak's ruling party newspaper reported in its today's editions.

The long-awaited visit will begin on Saturday at the invitation of Mubarak. Mayo, the weekly mouthpiece of the National Democratic Party said without providing details.

There have been frequent press reports on the planned visit since the two countries re-established full diplomatic relations in November 1987.

Saudi Arabia, along with most Arab countries broke relations with Egypt after the late President Anwar Sadat signed a peace treaty with Israel in 1979.

Egypt and Saudi Arabia presently maintain warm relations and co-ordinate their Arab and foreign policies.

Both advocate a political settlement for the Arab-Israeli problem through negotiations within the framework of an international peace conference on the Middle East.

King Fahd, who has been monitoring in Manama quoted Khomeini as saying.

Khomeini's renewed fundamentalist message followed his ongoing international crusade against British author Salman Rushdie's The Satanic Verses.

Iranian hardliners using the Rushdie affair to reverse a trend of improving ties with the West after the Aug 20 ceasefire in the war with Iraq, described as a "victory" the recent denunciation of Rushdie as an apostate by the generally moderate 46-nation Organisation of Islamic Conference, meeting in the Saudi Arabian capital of Riyadh last week.

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Shun carnal desires: Khomeini

MANAMA, March 20, (UPI): Iran's Ayatollah Khomeini called on the world's one billion Muslims today to work harder not for their own victories or carnal desires, but for the greater victory of God.

In a message issued on the eve of Iran's new year, the spiritual leader admitted that he himself had so far been unable to achieve that lofty ideal and remained a victim of his carnal desires.

"I hope the Iranian nation and other Muslims in the world will transform themselves so they can work for the sake of God and not for their own victory or their carnal desires," Iran's official IRNA

54 women protesters detained in Cyprus

NICOSIA, March 20, (Reuter): More than 3,000 women demonstrators stormed the Cyprus "green line" in protest against the 14-year division of the Mediterranean island and 54 of them were arrested.

Sunday's two-pronged Greek-Cypriot assault was met by angry Turkish-Cypriot demonstrators shouting "go home."

The Greek-Cypriots were

joined by supporters from the United States, Europe and Australia. Among them was Margaret Papandreu, estranged wife of Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu.

An eyewitness at Lymnia, where some 2,000 women stormed past a Turkish guard post on a steep hill southeast of the capital, said the Turkish-Cypriot

police "seemed to want to make arrests."

He said some of the women arrested were dragged away kicking and screaming. They had their hair pulled and received bruises.

At least four reporters and two American women were among the 54 arrested. They were released late last night.

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military junta then ruling Greece.

One demonstrator, arrested at Akhia where another 1,000 women crossed into an abandoned Greek-Cypriot village now under Turkish control, said: "Turkish-Cypriot police women were very rough, and were pushing and kicking us. We were arrested as we were walking away."



Afghan boys desert to rebels

PESHAWAR, Pakistan, March 20, (Reuter): Hambargui may be only a grubby 15-year-old but he has been forced into the Afghan Army, taught how to use a Kalashnikov assault rifle, seen men killed in battle and deserted to the mujahedeen.

He was among 360 conscripts who left their posts around the besieged eastern city of Jalalabad and gave themselves up to the rebels a week ago.

His 13-year-old companion Rahimdad described the scene: "The men just stopped fighting, held up their guns in the air and came out of their posts to join the mujahedeen because they knew the area was surrounded by the mujahedeen."

"They surrendered, they will get amnesty and we will forget all their past crimes," he told a news conference on return from an Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) meeting in Jeddah.

"But if they cling to power, then they will be responsible for the bloodshed."

Intervention

The Jeddah meeting gave the rebel government Afghanistan's OIC seat, which had been vacant since the 1979 Soviet military intervention.

The Western-backed mujahedeen guerrillas launched their offensive on Jalalabad two weeks ago. They see the city as a possible base for their government.

Some rebel spokesmen had predicted that Jalalabad would fall to them in a few days. But Hekmatyar, who leads the Hezbi Islami guerrilla party, said the rebels wanted a gradual fall of government-held towns to avoid civilian casualties.

Warned

The Washington Post reported on Saturday that US Secretary of State James Baker was close to naming a special ambassador to the rebel Afghan government.

The Post said the move would be partly aimed at curbing the political influence of Pakistan, through which the United States has pumped more than \$1 billion to the rebels since the early 1980s.

In Moscow, the Soviet general staff warned the Kremlin against large-scale intervention in Afghanistan in December 1979, arguing in vain for a more limited operation, a former top soldier said in an interview published yesterday.

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Rakowski in Kuwait

Amir to receive Polish Premier today

KUWAIT, March 20. (Reuters) The first Polish Prime Minister to visit Kuwait, Mieczyslaw Rakowski, arrived today for talks likely to focus on economic ties and possible Kuwaiti investment in Poland.

Rakowski arrived from Baghdad with a high-level economic delegation and is due to meet the Amir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah and the foreign, oil, and finance ministers during a three-day visit, Polish embassy officials said.

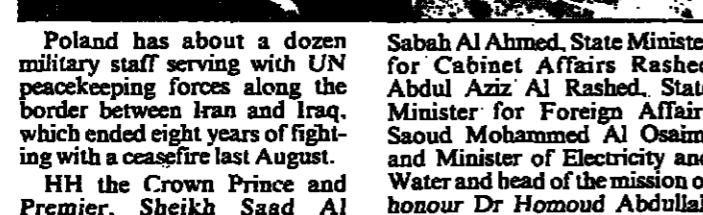
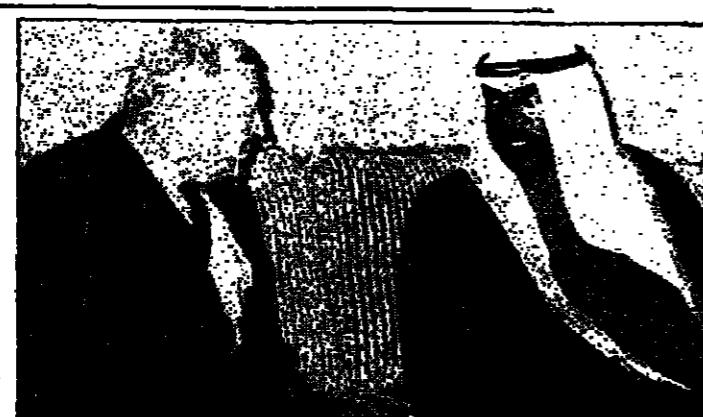
They said Rakowski would seek Kuwaiti financial help in a planned expansion of Gdansk refinery. Kuwait could market some of the oil products in nearby Scandinavia, where the Kuwait Petroleum Corporation owns hundreds of petrol stations, one official said.

Poland is gradually adopting free market policies and encouraging a private sector long overshadowed by the state. A recent law protects and offers incentives for foreign investment.

The head of the Kuwait Investment Authority, one of the world's biggest investors, recently said Kuwait was considering placing some of its surplus oil funds in East European states that were liberalising their economies.

Polish-Kuwaiti trade is small with Polish exports of goods and services to Kuwait last year amounting to a mere \$21.4 million, embassy officials said.

Political discussions will cover recent Middle East peace moves, Iran-Iraq peace talks and the situation in Lebanon, the officials said. Poland supports Arab demands for a Palestinian state and a Middle East peace conference under UN auspices.



Rakowski with Sheikh Saad upon his arrival and (below) a young girl greets the Polish Premier with flowers and a smile.

Poland has about a dozen military staff serving with UN peacekeeping forces along the border between Iran and Iraq, which ended eight years of fighting with a ceasefire last August.

HH the Crown Prince and Premier, Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Salem Al Sabah headed the reception party which also grouped Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh

Rakowski, who will be residing at Al Salam Palace, will meet tomorrow with HH the Amir.

KD8.743 million for 1989

Cost of cleaning services rises

COSTS of cleaning services in Kuwait amounted to KD8.5 million during 1988 and Kuwait Municipality has decided to augment this sum for the fiscal year 1989 to KD8.743,000, according to a Kuwaiti official.

This decision has been endorsed by the Kuwait Municipality Affairs Committee due to the increase in constructional expansion and increase of cleanliness activities, Essa Kandiri, the director of cleanliness and Road Works Department at Kuwaiti Municipality said.

He added that a study is being undertaken to amend the public cleanliness law No. 9/1987 to cover some loopholes. Officials are authorised to

refer violators of the cleanliness law to judicial authorities and can refuse to accept fines.

One of the amendments sought is to increase the fine for littering from KD5 to KD15. During the month of January, 387 violators signed pledges to observe the law. Last year, 3,606 violators were apprehended.

Tenders for collecting garbage pertain to the following areas: Mangaf, Abu Hafza, Fintas, Mahbula, Uqailia, Sabah Al Salem suburb, Sabhan, Umm Al Hinan, Mina Abdulla, Shuaiba, Wafra, Zour and Nuwaiseeb. Work in these areas is expected to begin during the second half of this year, Kandiri said.

New MTSC charges system a success

SHEIKH Hamad Ali Al Sabah, head of External Relations for the Kuwait Mobile Telephone Systems Co. has announced that the new charges system introduced a few months ago has positively contributed to reducing the number of mobile telephone calls.

The official added that as the number of calls has dropped, the services have subsequently improved. He commented that the new charges system was introduced only after several experiments proved that the shortcomings were basically caused due to subscribers' misuse.

Last month, which was the first month during which the new charges were applied, the number of calls dropped by 30 per cent, which resulted in better

mobile telephone communications throughout the country.

The number of mobile telephone subscribers has risen to over 17,000 and the company is still offering more telephones for sale. There is also a plan to co-operate with Bahrain's mobile telephone system to enable subscribers to use their telephones in both countries.

Adequate

Sheikh Hamad denied rumours that unused time allotted to the subscribers can be transferred to the next month. He said that each subscriber has 600 minutes, which is more than adequate for a month.

The company has started renting out mobile telephones as of the beginning of this month. Sets can be hired for a day, a week or a month, the official said.

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THE technical economy department at the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR) recently established an economic information and statistics bank related to Kuwait's economy, according to the department director, Dr Adel Ahmad Omar.

The official told KUNA that a final report on the new information bank has been completed, and that two booklets explain methods for using the economic information and dynamics of the bank's programmes.

The bank's information will be circulated among other researchers in co-operation with the National Centre for Scientific and Technological Data at the institute.

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EDITORIALS

ARAB TIMES, TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 1989

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

OPPOSITION always inflames the enthusiast, never converts him — Johann Friedrich Schiller, German writer (1759-1805).

Bush's presidency

Days wasted

By Merrill Hartson

WASHINGTON. (AP): Two months into his presidency, George Bush is struggling with perceptions that he has chosen a style of governance that is too cautious and constrained by worry about policy stumbles.

In recent speeches and exchanges with reporters, Bush has tried to drive away that image.

He chafed at suggestions by critics that his go-slow strategy on East-West relations gives Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev the upper hand in world public opinion, saying "I am not going to be pushed into speedy action because Mr Gorbachev gives a compelling speech at the United Nations."

He undertook an almost painstaking explanation of why he ordered time-consuming reviews of both foreign and defence strategy, saying "We've got to map a strategy."

But administration officials acknowledge that Bush's pre-inaugural decision to conduct such reassessments contributed to an image problem once he settled into office.

Bush said Thursday that he moved quickly to defuse such "ticking time bombs" as the United States' endangered savings and loan industry. But he also said getting the nation ready for the 1990s and beyond is "what my (long-term) agenda is all about."

Speaking in this same context earlier in the week, he told insurance executives: "I want to be a president who is remembered for preparing our country for the next century."

The administration has been beset in recent weeks with a spate of news reports, often quoting both Democratic and Republican political experts, saying Bush has adopted a too-cautious leadership style.

Because of this, the notion went, he missed the opportunity history has afforded new presidents to establish an agenda in their first 100 days in the White House.

Bush confronted such talk during a question-and-answer session with reporters on March 14 in which he denied the administration was "adrift." The President also argued that he had moved as quickly as Ronald Reagan, in 1981, to choose people for top-level jobs.

What followed was an unmistakable White House campaign to blunt any continuing talk of an aimless presidency.

"I'm particularly amused by the notion that the Bush administration must do all kinds of things in our first hundred days," Vice-President Dan Quayle told the National Press Club. "We're succeeding an administration of our own party at a time when the country is in good shape...."

"The notion of the '100 days' came in with Franklin Roosevelt, who took over a country in the depths of a depression," he said.

James David Barber, a presidential scholar at Duke University, disagreed.

When Bush talks about vision, he asked, "Does that mean anything? When he says something, hang loose until he does it. Drug war? Where is it? Education president? When?"

Thomas Edmonds, a Republican political consultant, said Bush "has got to satisfy the public's need to see accomplishments taking place."

"It's not enough to be just a statesman. You have to be a politician as well," he said. Edmonds noted that Reagan successfully used television frequently to "visually demonstrate forward motion" — even if little was being done.

Stephen Studdert, a special assistant to Bush who helps plan the President's activities and concerns himself with the President's image, said: "I think the 60-day report card is probably going to be pretty tough. But I think the 365-day report card is going to be a better barometer."

White House officials say Bush has moved forthrightly with his domestic policy agenda, noting that in addition to proposing a rescue plan for the troubled S and Ls, he has continued to seek a budget compromise with Congress and sent lawmakers his legislative proposals on such issues as child care and minimum wage.

Frank Greer, a Democratic consultant, said Bush had "a good inaugural" and had set a constructive tone in his statements about seeking bipartisan consensus on major issues.

But he said the Bush White House "wasted tremendous political capital" in the embattled battle to win confirmation of former Sen John Tower as secretary of defence.

"History has shown that the first 100 days will prove the tone and the effectiveness of a new administration, and he's wasted two-thirds of it," Greer said. "And I think what you're headed for is a weak presidency."

Press review

Israeli greed has no limits

KUWAIT. March 20. (KUNA): The Kuwait daily Al Rai Al Aam supported Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's statement in which he said world peace is not impossible, noting that it is a call to superpowers to stop "feeding and fomenting conflicts."

The paper affirmed that Mubarak is "honest with himself, his people and his nation," adding that when he calls for permanent and just peace, Mubarak "means Israel and the United States, because peace is not a slogan but it is a sacrifice."

The paper wondered how could peace prevail while Israel indulges in all kinds of destructive practices.

The daily affirmed that the heroic uprising "proves every day and every hour that peoples' rights do not die, but Israel does not want to understand and it imagines that military and economic aid from the US could buy peace and provide it with security."

The newspaper asserted that "just peace is the only way for existence but Israel does not want it, noting that 'Israeli greed has no limits.'"

TODAY IN HISTORY

1500 — French garrison in Novara, Italy, capitulates to forces of Ludovico Sforza.

1801 — French forces are defeated at Alexandria, Egypt, by British under Ralph Abercromby.

1803 — French civil code — the code Napoleon — is completed.

1829 — Earthquake in Spain kills 6,000.

1831 — Austrian troops enter Italy to put down revolt.

1848 — Denmark's Frederick VII announces decision to incorporate Schleswig.

1884 — France legalizes trade unions.

1905 — Britain and Persia sign agreement to counter Russian designs in Near East.

1919 — Soviet Republic is proclaimed.

1939 — Germany annexes Memel from Lithuania.

1953 — The Sudan achieves self-government.

1960 — Pan-African demonstration against pass laws in South Africa leads to shooting of 57 Africans at Sharpeville, and state of emergency is declared.

1975 — Military government in Ethiopia abolishes royal position of emperor.

1977 — India's Prime Minister Indira Gandhi resigns after losing her seat in parliamentary elections.

1988 — Jordan's King Hussein calls on Muslim world to support Palestinian unrest in Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Relief planes bring hope for thousands

Race against death in south Sudan

By Hamza Hendawi

AL MUGLAD, Sudan, (Reuter): For thousands facing starvation in famine-hit south Sudan, hope comes each day with a faint speck in northern skies.

By the time the speck turns into the familiar outline of a four-engine De Havilland Dash 7 or one of the smaller twin Otter aircraft, the people of Aweil know they will live to see another.

Succour from the north is carried by a tiny squadron of relief planes flying a daily race against death, hopping from town to town above scorched bushland too dangerous to travel by road.

An estimated 250,000 people starved to death last year in south Sudan, wracked by civil war, drought and famine.

UN officials say another 100,000 may die from hunger this year unless food reaches them before the onset of the May-October rainy season.

In only 15 minutes, the Dash lands at Aweil, sacks of sorghum are unloaded and it takes off for the return flight to Al Muglad, 270 km (170 miles) away.

The plane, using an airstrip at Al Muglad belonging to the US oil company Chevron, shuttles to Aweil from dawn to dusk without shutting off its engines. Maintenance is done at night.

The operation is part of what the United Nations calls a race against time to stop hunger killing more people in the south, where rebels of the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) have been fighting the government since 1983.

Sung by the magnitude of the



A starving Sudanese mother and her child waiting for food to be delivered.

1988 famine, the UN has produced an ambitious relief plan costing \$132 million and involving 132,000 tonnes of food and other supplies.

But it says it can be implemented, even in part, only if the Army and the SPLA agree to a one-month truce in April.

The SPLA, which says it is

fighting to end what it regards as the rule of Muslim minority in Khartoum over the animist and Christian south, says it wants to study the truce proposal before

making a decision.

Relief officials fear a proper truce may never come.

Western diplomats said the SPLA held the initiative in the

bush war and was suspicious of government motives in wanting a truce.

Bryan Wannop, the UN secretary-general's representative in Sudan for emergency operations, said that "corridors of tranquillity were a possibility."

"We need SPLA blessing, but it is not entirely dependent on the proposed relief plan."

Diplomats and relief officials said the current food airdrops alone could not prevent a re-run of last year's tragedy.

But the operations to Aweil and the besieged town of Juba and an airlift by the International Committee of the Red Cross to eight government or rebel-held towns may be used to pioneer larger relief efforts.

"It is operations like these, carried out with little publicity and no fanfare, that we might end up with at the end of the day," said one official.

The combined effects of fighting and famine forced at least three million southerners last year to flee their homes to northern Sudan and neighbouring Ethiopia and Uganda. Thousands died on the way.

Already hundreds of southerners are arriving every day in the towns Al Muglad and Abyei close to the southern Bahr Al Ghazal region.

Officials are considering other ways of sending in supplies, with river barges, trains and more aircraft among options.

But even if a period of tranquillity comes, armed outlaws, mined roads and the sheer scale of operations make the relief of south Sudan a daunting task.

Immediate breakthrough is not expected

US-PLO talks enter new stage

By Carol Giacomo

WASHINGTON, (Reuter): The United States enters a new stage of talks with the PLO this week after offering concessions to the Arab point of view on Middle East peace.

First, Secretary of State James Baker has embarked upon a strategy that some analysts perceive as giving the PLO and Israel more or less parallel status.

Second, Baker has admitted Israel may someday have to negotiate peace with its nemesis the PLO, a statement that five months ago would have been unthinkable from an American official.

"He certainly threw a stone in the water," said Middle East expert Robert Hunter of Baker's comment on potential PLO-Israel talks and its unpredictable rippling effect.

"If it was the PLO, I'd read that very positively," he said.

The meeting on Wednesday in Tunis is the second "substantive" one since the United States and the PLO resumed their dialogue last December after a 13-year break.

Washington had barred contacts until PLO chairman Yasser Arafat met US conditions to renounce terrorism and recognise Israel's right to exist.

There have been other US-PLO talks since the first meeting but all focused on American complaints about PLO raids against Israel; not on the larger regional

peace questions.

That dialogue begins on Wednesday when Washington is expected to ask the PLO to take steps — like halting violence in the West Bank and Gaza Strip — to help improve the regional climate so Israeli-Palestinian negotiations can eventually occur.

"It's important for those talks to be useful to both sides," a senior State Department official said.

Particularly after the visit to Washington last week by Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens, "it's important for the PLO to know exactly what the US position is," the official said.

As with Arens' visit, US officials and private analysts are not expecting an immediate breakthrough at the Tunis talks. "This is a long-term process," the official said.

Arens' trip was a reconnaissance mission ahead of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's arrival here next month. It marked the start of Baker's foray as secretary of state into the diplomatic morass of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Like the PLO, Israel was urged to devise proposals for reducing tensions in the occupied territories where a Palestinian uprising is now in its 15th month.

President Bush twice appealed for Shamir to bring "new ideas" when he comes here in April — an emphasis that seemed to pique Arens. US and Israeli

sources said the foreign minister left angry because of Baker's reference to eventual PLO-Israel talks, which Israel rejects.

Moreover, Arens gave no hint that his right-wing government would heed US calls for tension-reducing measures.

There was no apparent arm-twisting but the US message to its close ally was clear — appropriately so, several experts said.

Baker, considered a pragmatist, and Bush "have set the stage for a long, constructive dialogue, not a confrontation with Israel," said Fred Axegard, of the Centre for Strategic and International Studies.

If there is a change in Israel's position, it will come about through persuasion, not bullying," he said.

Baker has eschewed the approach of his predecessor George Shultz, who in his last year in office advanced a detailed peace plan with specific dates for Arab-Israeli negotiations.

This caused the two sides to move further apart, not closer, and the Shultz initiative failed.

An Arab diplomat who asked not to be identified said Bush and Baker are luckier than Shultz because they have inherited a more auspicious climate that should make success easier.

In particular, he said, the US and PLO are now talking, the PLO seems more interested in a political solution than ever before and the Soviet Union has expressed increasing interest in being helpful in

facilitating regional peace.

Convinced the two main players are not yet ready to talk directly, however, Baker has taken a two-pronged approach that seeks to reshape the political environment between Israel and the Palestinians.

First, he is encouraging them to take steps that would prove to each other they are serious about peace and credible partners in a dialogue.

Second, there would be direct discussions on a final settlement.

The blueprint for the strategy was developed last year by a study group sponsored by the Washington Institute for Near East Policy chaired by Lawrence Eagleburger, now deputy secretary of state.

Another prominent group member was Dennis Ross, Baker's director of policy planning and a leader in shaping the new US approach to Middle East peace.

One obvious question is how long Baker is willing to devote time and energy to this intractable problem. Israel, especially, may try to resist participation, hoping Baker gets distracted by other pressing issues.

"I don't get the sense certainly that the secretary has put any time limit on this," a top Baker aide said.

"I don't see how one, in a fit of impatience, could say that's all I'm going to do in that region," he said, adding: "I don't even see how that could ever be an option."

Baker: policy

Thailand or requests for further papers and information.

These letters, many of them several years old, are treasured and tendered to the visitor as if they were a magic pass to another world.

Anh, a wizened little man in his 60s who said he had been an interpreter for the US Navy in the Mekong delta region, proudly showed a letter dated April last year that showed his application had been acknowledged by the orderly departure programme section of the US embassy in Bangkok.

"So far the departure rate for that programme is running at about 8,500 a year, but we would like 40,000 to go. We have suggested that the United States send ships to accommodate them, but they have rejected the idea," the official said.

So far Thanh and his colleagues, the wait goes on, with little information trickling through other than brief letters of acknowledgement from US officials in

Most of the estimated six million people in the sprawling, lively city seemed determined to look to the future, encouraged by the Vietnamese government's new open-door policy towards non-socialist countries; particularly Western aid donor nations.

Thi Binh, a 35-year-old schoolteacher who admitted that in the past she had considered emigration, said she was staying.

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Gulf urged to entrust greater portion of reserves to Arab banks

By Jadranka Porter
Arab Times staff

A LEADING Kuwaiti banker has urged the Gulf states to entrust a greater portion of state reserves management to the Arab banks, instead of relying heavily on the services of long-established overseas institutions.

Ibrahim Dabdoub, the general manager of the National Bank of Kuwait, said regional governments and public sector entities have shown little confidence in the Arab banks' ability to manage the public sector reserves.

"Out of approved \$200 billion of Arab public and private funds presently managed by banks, I can venture to say that no more than \$10 billion is managed by Arab banks," Dabdoub told the Union of Arab Banks conference in Madrid last week.

According to the paper which he presented,

at the conference, the Arab banks, "which have achieved some degree of parity of investment performance with leading investment houses," deserve a larger role in the management of state reserves.

Speaking on the strategy of Arab banking in the 1990s, Dabdoub launched a back-to-basics call urging Arab bankers to "rediscover our roots" and develop the business emanating from domestic retail clients. He said that during the 1980s, which witnessed a remarkable growth in product range and corporate aspirations, commercial banks seem to have lost sight of the natural base of their business — the core of loyal domestic retail clients.

High net-worth individual customers, who in the Gulf states constitute a higher proportion of overall retail customer base than in any other of the world's regions, remain the backbone of commercial

banks' business, he said.

He urged the Arab banks to maximise the potential of that 20 per cent of their customer base which generates 80 per cent of their profits.

Dabdoub said that in the next decade the Arab banks will operate in an increasingly hostile global arena dominated by large banks. The Arab banking scene will reflect developments in international markets. The large banks will tend to become larger and will continue to draw strength in part from selective acquisition of the franchise of their smaller competitors.

Positions

Top-tier banks will continue to operate from positions of greater strength while the rest, unable to exercise significant influence, will be reactive in their behaviour, Dabdoub said.

Oil price levels will have a major impact

on Arab financial institutions in the 1990s. Despite predictions that oil prices will be steady or will even increase by 1993, Dabdoub advised banks to be prepared to face weak energy price levels.

"It is better to be faced with the challenge of accelerating rates of growth than of rapid adjustment to declining rates of growth," he said.

He predicted the growth of private sector and reduced public ownership in the 1990s. Declining oil revenues will force the regional governments to divest themselves of their historically all-embracing roles within their economies, he said.

There will be a greater drive toward privatisation and fewer public sector subsidies. This trend is already in progress, Dabdoub said, adding that according to latest estimates the private sector in the Gulf states controls more than \$150 billion worth of foreign assets.



A Tokyo share trader flashes a desperate hand signal to fellow brokers at the Tokyo Stock Exchange yesterday as stocks closed with the biggest one-day drop this year following a dive on Wall Street on Friday. Shares plunged 366.21 points to close at 31,654.80. (Reuter wirephoto)

Proposals still under discussion

Saudis and Kuwait may prop up oil price

LONDON, March 20, (KUNA): Saudi Arabia and Kuwait are considering steps to underpin the price of Middle Eastern crude oils, following concern among Gulf exporters over the failure of their prices to keep pace with those of North Sea and American producers, according to a report here today.

The minister told reporters that the committee decided on the cancellation of that ceiling after reviewing issues of concern to the share dealers and a report by a subcommittee assigned to study the trading system and ways of developing it.

Al Khaled underlined that the stock market's administration was given the authority to intervene and monitor "suspicious deals and prices."

Co-operation

The minister also revealed that the broker's limit of operating within 250,000 shares per deal has also been lifted and brokers can now buy or sell any quantity requested by the dealers.

The ministry, in co-operation with the Central Bank, recently concluded a draft law on establishment of investment and real estate funds in the bourse, he said, adding that the draft law will be tabled with the cabinet in the coming two weeks.

He hoped that following ratification of the law, the system of deferred payment would be settled, noting that it needs revision.

Bangladesh banker for Kuwait

A BANGLADESHI banker, Dr A.M.A. Rahim will arrive in Kuwait today on a short visit.

Dr. Rahim is the senior executive vice-president of Al Baraka Bank Bangladesh Ltd., Dhaka.

Rahim joined the government service in the erstwhile CSP cadre and held various important positions. He also held the position of managing director, Bangladesh Krishibank.

Al Baraka Bank Bangladesh Ltd., has recently signed an agreement with The City International Exchange Co. W.L.L. Kuwait, whereby the bank will honour drawings of the company from Kuwait to all over Bangladesh.

EEC, EFTA to step up ties

BRUSSELS, Belgium, March 20, (AP): The European Economic Community and the European Free Trade Association agreed today to step up co-operation but issued no blueprint on how to go about it.

The 12 EEC foreign ministers and their six EFTA counterparts said in a brief communiqué following a meeting that they discussed more co-operation in such areas as free movement of goods, services, capital and persons, as well as research, technology, education, environment, social policy and transportation.

Spanish Foreign Minister Francisco Fernandez Ordonez, the meeting's chairman, said the session had provided a "political impulse to allow (the EEC and EFTA) to explore future paths." In their statement, the ministers said they discussed a "more

structured" EEC-EFTA partnership which the EFTA government leaders requested at their Oslo summit last week.

But no decision was announced except that the two sides would meet again later this year.

The six EFTA members enjoy tariff-free trade throughout the area in industrial but not agricultural goods.

The EEC is an association of 12 countries formed to effect a closer economic union, especially by mutual tariff concessions.

The EEC and the EFTA nations — Norway, Iceland, Austria, Finland, Sweden and Switzerland — have strong trade links, and customs duties on industrial goods traded between the two blocs were abolished in 1984.

Manila signs IMF letter of intent

MANILA, Philippines, March 20, (AP): The Philippine government today signed a letter of intent with the International Monetary Fund, committing itself to reform in return for possible new loans to continue its economic revival.

Finance Secretary Vicente Jayme told reporters he and Central Bank Governor Jose Fernandez signed the letter with President Corazon Aquino's approval and forwarded it to the IMF.

The agreement with the IMF commits the government to reducing its budget deficit through more efficient tax collection, liberalising import regulations and selling state-controlled companies.

Jayne said the agreement would pave the way for about \$1.3 billion in new loans. But critics say the government's annual growth target of six per cent is unrealistic and that the programme will force new taxes and fuel inflation.

Negotiators near pact on Latin bank dispute

AMSTERDAM, March 20, (Reuters): US and Latin American officials today worked to ratify a draft compromise on Inter-American Development Bank lending policy which could break a deadlock over a multi-billion dollar IADB capital increase.

Finance ministers of senior officials from five countries — the United States, Argentina, Brazil, Mexico and Venezuela — reached the compromise early today.

The breakthrough could allow a formal agreement to be announced during the IADB's three-day annual meeting which began in Amsterdam, today.

IADB president Enrique Iglesias told the meeting's opening ceremony that the negotiations which started here last Thursday appeared to have broken the deadlock on bank funds.

Agreements

"This will mean the end of a long period of disagreement which I hope will be overcome with a historic agreement here in Amsterdam," he said.

Under the compromise, the IADB would be able to devote 25 per cent of a \$22.5 billion, four-year lending programme to fast-disbursing sectoral development loans, in co-financing operations with the World Bank. Agreement would clear the way for a \$26.43 billion capital increase.

"I think this is a very imaginative solution," said Mexico's Under-Secretary for International Affairs, Angel Gurria.

Gurria made his comment before US officials and delegates from six Latin American countries met to try to work out a final version that could be ratified by IADB governors at a meeting which officials hoped would be held later today.

The compromise followed a US demand that sectoral loans — allotted to economic sectors rather than the IADB's traditional activity in the project lending — should be made conditional on a lender already having medium to long-term development loans and World Bank programmes in place.

"There would be no implied subordination of the IADB to the World Bank because the two institutions have always seen involved in the same field of medium to long-term development loans," Felix Camarasa of Argentina, alternate executive director of the World Bank, told Reuters.

LONDON, March 20, (Reuters):

The dollar dipped today after the US and Canadian central banks intervened in the open market to check its advance, while shares were generally lower after Wall Street's fall on Friday.

Gold and oil prices stayed firm, dealers said.

The rate of inflation in the United States continued to capitate world financial markets.

Investors

After last Friday's producer price index showed inflation was tightening its grip on the world's largest economy, market attention has shifted to the US consumer price index figures, due out tomorrow.

"If we get more signs that US inflation is on the way up, then the pressure is going to be on for tighter money," said a currency trader at a US finance house in

London.

Currency investors are buying dollars in the hope official US interest rates may be raised to cool inflation, but the same prospect has dented shares, which do not pay interest.

Tokyo, Singapore, Hong Kong, Taiwan and Sydney all ended lower today. Seoul was the lone gainer.

The root of the fall was mostly traced to Wall Street, which had its sharpest one-day fall since April 14, 1988 on Friday. A surge in US February producer prices to almost double expectations revived fears of inflation and higher interest rates.

But Japanese analysts shrugged off fears that another stock market crash was under way.

"It's not even something I'd considered," said Ross Rowbury, a broker at Sanyo Securities. "I don't think financial markets would let things get that bad."

Asian stock markets tumbled today in the wake of Friday's US share price plunge, but analysts say any resemblance to the crash of 1987 is purely coincidental.

Tokyo, Singapore, Hong Kong, Taiwan and Sydney all ended lower today. Seoul was the lone gainer.

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Governments urged to invest in Arab world

[IAIGC boosts trade]

DUBAI, March 20, (OPECNA): A leading Arab economist urged Arab governments yesterday to direct their investments inside the Arab world as a safety measure and also to help efforts aimed at economic integration.

The statement was made by Abdel Karim Al Mudarras, secretary general and executive director of the Arab-British Chamber of Commerce.

"The volume of Arab investments in Britain is too big and it is essential that this Arab capital returns to the Arab world," Al Mudarras said at the end of a two-day meeting here yesterday.

The meeting was attended by 15 Arab members of the chamber and was held to discuss the best means of protecting Arab interests in Britain following a draft law currently under discussion imposing equal taxes on British nationals and foreigners.

Al Mudarras said the Arab delegates discussed a Euro-Arab arbitration system to replace the one applied by the International Chamber of Commerce, which he accused of being biased and against Arab investors.

He said the Euro-Arab Chamber would seek support from European chambers of commerce and industry to enable the system to work.

Al Mudarras also praised the recent creation of two regional Arab economic groupings and expressed the hope the Arab Co-operation Council (ACC) and the Arab Maghreb Union would become the nucleus of a unified Arab bloc.

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LAST 3 DAYS FOR SALE AT The Grand Stores

The Grand Stores

KUWAIT - FEHEEHEL AHMADI

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

LONDON
London Stock Exchange

INCHCAPE 225/0
JAGUAR 311/0
KINGFISHER 267/0
LADBROKE 535.0

LONDON
(Over 500 stocks)

	NAME	CLOSE	OPEN
ABBEY LFE	LAST	LAND SEC'S	571/0
ADT LTD	323.0	LAPORTE	421/0
ALD LTD	148.0	LASHO	456/0
AMSTRAD	475/0	LEGAL-GEN	543/0
ARGYL GP	144.0	LONRHO	335.0
ASDA GP	168.0	LUCAS IND	625/0
BAA	142.0	MAGNET	280.0
BTR	337.0	MARKESSP	169/0
BAT IND'S	553.0	MAXWELL C	209/0
BARCLAYS	359/0	MB GROUP	257.0
BASS	428.0	MECCA LEI	89.31
BEAZER	924/0	MEPC	571/0
BEECHAMS	209/0	NEXT	148/0
BERSIFORD	570.0	ALEXON	388/0
BICC PLC	150/0	P & O DFD	668.0
BLUE ARM	492/0	PEARL	425.0
BLUE CIRC	525/0	ALLD LDN	142/0
BOC GP	497/0	ALLD PART	77/0
BOOTS CO	267/0	ALLIANCE	967/0
BPP IND'S	252/0	AMBER DAY	55/4
BR COMM	214.0	ANEC	436/0
BR AIRWAY	192/0	ANER SHAM	515/0
BR AEROSP	550.0	ANT HLTHC	338/0
BR GAS RG	180.0	ANGLA TV	277/0
BR LAND	351/0	ANTEL CO	291/0
B.P.	288.0	APPLEYARD	454/0
B.P. P.P.	185.0	APV PLC	154/0
BR STEEL	82.75	ASHLEY LA	108/0
BR TELCOM	271/0	ASUREE A	255/0
BURMAN OL	565/0	ASTU REED	388/0
BURTON	209/0	AUTO SECS	283/0
CABLESWIR	450.0	BAKEMAN	76/0
CABURYS	337/0	BAILEY	22/0
CALOR GRP	376/0	BAILLY	108.0
CRITLN COM	877/0	BAILLY JAP	515/0
CRITLN R T	306.0	BAILLY SHI	92/4
COOKSONS	295/0	BAIRD	242/0
COURTAULD	347.0	BAKERIE	187/0
DALGETY	379.0	BAKERY	187/0
DIXONS	169.5	BAKERY CHART	558/0
ENG CHINA	522/0	BAKERY DEV	202/0
FKI BABCK	167.0	SUN ALLIA	122/0
FERRANTI	107/0	SUN LIFE	970/0
FISONS	277.0	BEAR BRID	10/6
GATEWAY	162.0	BEATTIE J	164/0
GEN ACCID	970/0	TATE&LEYLE	238.0
GEN ELEC	231.0	BELHAVEN	51/0
GLAXO	288/0	BELMAY	250/0
GLOBE	164.5	BELMAY	152/0
GLYNM	311.0	BELMAY	152/0
GUARD RYL	210/0	BELMAY	152/0
GKIN	360.0	BELMAY	152/0
GUINNESS	415/0	BELMAY	152/0
HMMERS A	785/0	WELCOME	445.0
RANSOM	181.5	WHTBRO	344/0
HARRISN C	715/0	WILLIAMS	278/0
HUKER SID	665/0	WILLIS FB	251/0
HILLSDOWN	279/0	WIMPEY GE	300.0
		BORTHWICK	41/0
		41/0	41/0

World Indices

INDEX	LATEST	1/PREV-DAYS/2	PREV-QR	PREV-YR
FT 30 ORD	1690.9	1705.5	1740.1	1455.3
FT 500 SHR	0	1204.7	1204.7	1008.8
FT ALL SHR	1095.79	1095.79	926.59	926.59
FT GOLD NR	88.61	88.61	87.03	87.03
FT MINES F	194.2	194.2	161.9	161.9
FT OIL	677.37	677.37	565.31	565.31
FT WLD DLR	2020.4	2020.4	1725.4	1725.4
FT WLD STG	141.52	143.19	139.21	139.21
FT WLD LOC	122.27	123.99	123.49	115.30
	129.07	130.63	130.24	123.40
			123.40	123.40

London Stock Market Report

U.K. STOCKS NEAR LOWS BUT IGNORE EASTER WALL ST

LONDON, MARCH 20, REUTER - EQUITIES STOOD NEAR THEIR LOWS IN LATE TRADE WITH THE MUCH AS EXPECTED EASTER OPENING ON WALL STREET FAILING TO HAVE MUCH IMPACT ON SENTIMENT, DEALERS SAID. TODAY'S LOW VOLUME AND EASIER TREND REFLECTED INVESTOR RELUCTANCE TO ADJUST POSITIONS UNTIL THE GLOBAL INTEREST RATE PICTURE BECAME CLEARER.

"FRIDAY'S HIGH INFLATION FIGURE FROM THE U.S. MAKES A NEAR-TERM TIGHTENING BY THE FEDERAL RESERVE MORE LIKELY AND THAT COULD ULTIMATELY MEAN HIGHER RATES HERE...MY BUT EQUITIES IF THAT IS GOING TO HAPPEN?" SAID ONE TRADER.

AT 1530 GMT THE FTSE 100 TOOK A LOW OF 2,051.2 AT 1355 GMT AND A MODEST 293 MIL SHARES WERE TRADED BY 1500 GMT. "THERE HAS BEEN NO REAL SELLING TODAY...THE BULK OF THE FALL IS DUE TO A MARK-DOWN BY CAUTIOUS MARKET MAKERS," ONE TRADER COMMENTED.

STOCK MARKET INVESTORS WORLDWIDE ARE BRACING THEMSELVES FOR TOMORROW'S U.S. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI), ANOTHER IMPORTANT U.S. INFLATION INDICATOR.

SOME ECONOMISTS HAVE BEEN REVISING THEIR FORECASTS UPWARDS FOR THE FEBRUARY CPI AFTER THE SURPRISE LEAP IN THE PRODUCER PRICE INDEX FRIDAY, BUT THE CONSENSUS IS FOR A RISE OF AROUND 0.5 PCT AFTER THE 0.6 PCT RISE IN JANUARY.

Precious Metals

LONDON, MARCH 20, REUTER - GOLD BULLION TRADED QUIETLY TO END THE DAY AT 395.75/396.25 DLRS AN UNCLIC COMPARED WITH AN AFTERNOON FIX OF 395.50 DLRS AND FRIDAY'S 393.00/393.50 CLOSE. DEALERS SAID SOLD AT ONE POINT ADVANCED TO THE 396.25/396.75 DLR AREA BUT IT SLIPPED BACK ON LACK OF FOLLOW-THROUGH BUYING WITH OPERATORS RELUCTANT TO PUSH PRICES TO HIGHER LEVELS AHEAD OF THE U.S. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI) FOR FEBRUARY DUE TOMORROW.

PRECIOUS METALS ARE LIKELY TO REMAIN QUIET AHEAD OF THE CPI DATA, WHICH WILL GIVE A GUIDE TO INFLATIONARY PRESSURES, THEY ADDED.

London Money Market

LONDON, MARCH 20, REUTER - BRITISH INTEREST RATES FINISHED LITTLE CHANGED FROM FRIDAY'S CLOSING LEVELS ALTHOUGH DEALERS NOTED A FIRMER BIAS AMID INCREASING NERVOUSNESS ABOUT RISING INTERNATIONAL INTEREST RATES.

RENEWED FEARS THAT RISING INFLATIONARY PRESSURES IN THE U.S. WILL PROMPT FURTHER CREDIT TIGHTENING BY THE FEDERAL RESERVE ACCOUNTED FOR AN INITIAL 1/8 POINT MARK-UP.

HOWEVER, MANY FELT THE OPENING RISE IN RATES WAS OVERDONE AND A FAIRLY NEUTRAL SET OF U.K. MONETARY AND BANK LENDING DATA HELPED CALM THE MARKET'S JITTERS AND SENT RATES LOWER, ALMOST BACK TO FRIDAY'S CLOSING LEVELS.

Foreign Exchange

DLR	STG	DKR	FFR
1.7145/55	1,8735/45	6,3430/60	OPG
STG 1.7130/40	3,2110/40	10,8680/840	NOON
DNK 1.8711/8791	3.207/221	29.455/615	FIX
FFR 3,3425/3545	10,873/891	338,240/880	FIX
FR 1,6150/6160	2,7673/7706	86.11-21	25.44-47
HNL 2,1150	3,6255	112,825	33.33
ECU 1,11068	0648004	2,08286	7,05225
SDR 1,30364	0,758724	2,43598	8,25204
YEN 13175/85	225,66/98	100	100
SDR RATE	17/03/1989	OTHERS	20/03/1989

Major Stock Exchanges Comparison 1/2/89 vs 1/2/89

INDEX	LATEST	1/PREV-DAYS/2	PREV-QR	PREV-YR
AUSTRALIA	290.0	288.6	289.2	293.0
AUSTRIA	267.8	265.7	264.4	226.7
BELGIUM	447.2	446.6	446.4	412.8
CANADA	391.6	395.5	391.8	356.1
DENMARK	599.9	599.5	589.6	464.5
FRANCE	455.0	207.9	209.6	195.6
HONG KONG	2566.2	2578.8	2334.2	1812.7
FINLAND	126.0	124.8	124.8	126.9
ITALY	464.2	462.8	452.5	439.5
JAPAN	1447.7	1547.8	1438.5	1289.0
NETHERLANDS	291.5	297.6	295.0	260.1
NEW ZEAL.	92.8	93.5	93.6	93.9
NORWAY	721.8	725.2	718.2	483.0
SPAIN	692.7	691.2	691.7	587.0
SWEDEN	1240.5	1235.5	1242.3	960.4
SWITZ.	184.7	184.3	184.3	163.5
U.K.	631.4	643.3	646.2	551.2
U.S.A.	269.5	275.6	272.9	250.6
WORLD	500.2	507.6	506.9	446.2
E.A.F.E.	951.9	962.9	965.5	832.0
				757.5

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ARAB TIMES, TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 1989

London Stock Exchange

Open Mid-Day

NAME	OPEN	MID-DAY

<tbl_r cells="3

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

ARAB TIMES, TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 1989

INTERNATIONAL Board Sightings

AMSTERDAM: An Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) spokeswoman confirmed that the bank's five major shareholders agreed a compromise that will allow its board of governors to proceed with a \$2.43 billion dir capital rise. (XLE 0850)

BRAZIL: Negotiations between Venezuela and its 13-bank steering committee on a \$600 mn dir bridge financing have collapsed, chief Venezuelan debt negotiator Edgard Leal said. (XLGU 1319)

London: Nippon Shisan Company Ltd has launched 450 mn dir of four-year equity warrant bonds with a 4.5% p/c indicated rate.

Manila: The Philippines expects initial International Monetary Fund (IMF) approval within the next few days for its policy programme drawn up in return for a \$1.3 billion dir loan package. Finance Secretary Vicente Jayme said. (XLER 1022) He also said the Philippines will probably begin new debt talks with foreign commercial banks in the first half of next month.

Amsterdam: The International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank must give fresh credits, not guarantees on commercial bank loans to Third World debtor countries, IMF interim committee chairman Onno Rueding told Reuters. (DKEU 1518)

Zurich: Switzerland's grey market for bonds and notes faces its first shakeout, bankers say. (XLFT 1200)

INTERBANK RATES

INTEREST RATES

	CALL	ONE MONTH	THREE MONTHS
DNM	12-3/4 5/8	12-15/16 13/16	13-1/8 1/16
FFT	5/8-85	6-15/25	6-50/60
PAR	8-7/16 7/16	8-7/16 9/16	8-7/8 9
ZUR	4-5/8 4-7/8	5-1/2 5-3/4	5-3/4 6
BRX	6.60	8-1/16 3/16	8-5/16 7/16
RDN	12-3/4 13-1/4	12-3/4 13-1/4	12-7/8 13-3/8
AHS	6.37/50	6.56/66	6.77/87
TOK	4-4/32 6/32	4-27/32 29/32	4-24/32 26/32
ECU	8-12 8.37	8.56 8.68	8.81 8.93

BONDS

	PR CLOSE	OPEN	CLOSE	CEN SPG	1740	1735	1730	GSFC	153.75	152.50	151.75
ACC	299	301	294	COLGATE	340	337.50	335	GUL ALKL	12.50	12	12.50
ALLEN CHEM	--	--	--	CRONT GR	800	800	800	GUL HEAVY	31	30	30.50
ALV INS.	--	--	--	DCM	10.50	10	11	HERO HONDA	950	940	920
AKI FAB	--	--	--	DEEP FERT	35.50	35.25	34	HIND CIMA	108.75	107.50	106.25
ASHOK LEY	69	68	68.50	DUNLOP	75	72	74	HIND COCOA	21.50	20.50	20.25
ASIA PAINT	216.25	212.50	215	EI HOTELS	56	55	56	HIND LEVER	78	78	78
ATLAS COP	44	45	45	ESCORTS	63	62	63	HIND MOTOR	73.50	72.75	72.50
AUTOL CORP	73	72	72	ESSKAYE	132.50	132.50	128.75	HINDALCO	263	266	268
BAJAJ AUTO	375	375	367.50	ESSAR SPG	21.85	22	21.75	HOECHST	710	705	720
BAK RAYON	342.50	340	340	FOOD SPL	--	--	--	IND ORG	27.50	27.50	26
BLOK PLAST	--	--	--	GAR POLY	78.75	77.50	77.50	INDROL	295	295.75	290
BON DYE	130.50	130	128	GE SHIPING	35	35	34.50	INGERSOLL	370	360	360
BURE LEL	187.50	187.50	185	GLINDIA	90.50	89	90	ITC	60	59	61
CANSHARE	170	165	170	GWFC	46.25	46	46	JK SYN	68.75	68.50	68.50
CEN ENKA	2680	2650	2650	GRASIN	101.50	101.50	100.75	KIN ENGG	186.50	180	182.50

FRANKFURT

GERMANY

STOCK	LAST PR-CLOSE	STOCK	LAST PR-CLOSE	NITSUB CP	1490	1550	NITSUB EL	1060	1110	NITSUB EST	2500	NITSUB HI	990	NITSUB CO	1140	1160	NITSUKOSH	2190	2270
AEG	211.0	212.0	AIJINNOMOTO	2610	2610	2610	NITSUB HI	1060	1110	NITSUB CO	1140	1160	NITSUB EL	2190	2270	NITSUKOSH	2190	2270	
ALLIANZ VR	1725.0	1759.0	AKAI ELEC	700	695	695	NITSUKOSH	1090	1110	NITSUKOSH	1140	1160	NITSUKOSH	1140	1160	NITSUKOSH	1140	1160	
BADERNICK	184.5	184.5	AKOI	1560	1550	1550	NITSUKOSH	1140	1160	NITSUKOSH	1140	1160	NITSUKOSH	1140	1160	NITSUKOSH	1140	1160	
BASE	285.3	286.7	ASAHI GLS	2060	2080	2080	NITSUKOSH	1140	1160	NITSUKOSH	1140	1160	NITSUKOSH	1140	1160	NITSUKOSH	1140	1160	
BAYER	293.5	296.2	ASAHI OPT.	855	875	875	NITSUKOSH	1140	1160	NITSUKOSH	1140	1160	NITSUKOSH	1140	1160	NITSUKOSH	1140	1160	
BAYER HYP	356.0	357.5	BANK TOKYO	1670	1670	1670	NITSUKOSH	1140	1160	NITSUKOSH	1140	1160	NITSUKOSH	1140	1160	NITSUKOSH	1140	1160	
BAYER VER	366.0	373.0	BRIDGESTON	1380	1380	1380	NITSUKOSH	1140	1160	NITSUKOSH	1140	1160	NITSUKOSH	1140	1160	NITSUKOSH	1140	1160	
BIG	451.0	454.0	CANON	1520	1530	1530	NITSUKOSH	1140	1160	NITSUKOSH	1140	1160	NITSUKOSH	1140	1160	NITSUKOSH	1140	1160	
BIR	483.0	496.3	CASIO COMP	1370	1380	1380	NIT ELEC	1720	1770	NIT ELEC	1720	1770	NIT ELEC	1720	1770	NIT ELEC	1720	1770	
BIR	510.0	518.0	CHUGAI PHM	1520	1450	1450	NIP KOKAN	905	933	NIP KOKAN	905	933	NIP KOKAN	905	933	NIP KOKAN	905	933	
BIZ	239.7	244.5	CITIZEN	941	956	956	NIP OIL	1650	1700	NIP OIL	1650	1700	NIP OIL	1650	1700	NIP OIL	1650	1700	
CONTI GUM	250.0	254.9	D-ICHI KAN	3460	3500	3500	NIP STEEL	912	938	NIP STEEL	912	938	NIP STEEL	912	938	NIP STEEL	912	938	
DAIMER BEN	649.5	659.0	DAI NIP IK	870	884	884	NIP YUSEN	909	922	NIP YUSEN	909	922	NIP YUSEN	909	922	NIP YUSEN	909	922	
DEUTSC BANK	505.5	510.8	DAI NIP PT	2270	2310	2310	NIS MOTOR	1450	1500	NIS MOTOR	1450	1500	NIS MOTOR	1450	1500	NIS MOTOR	1450	1500	
DLH	474.0	479.0	DAI NIP SC	891	901	901	NOHARA SEC	3430	3490	NOHARA SEC	3430	3490	NOHARA SEC	3430	3490	NOHARA SEC	3430	3490	
DRESDNER B	305.0	309.7	DAI NIP TO	909	909	909	OBTA CO	1160	1170	OBTA CO	1160	1170	OBTA CO	1160	1170	OBTA CO	1160	1170	
DT BARCODE	165.5	166.8	DAICEL	1490	1500	1500	OLIMPUS	1160	1170	OLIMPUS	1160	1170	OLIMPUS	1160	1170	OLIMPUS	1160	1170	
FAG-MON	547.50	562.50	DAIMA IVES	1978.4	2260.2	2260.2	PIENTA OCN	860	870	PIENTA OCN	860	870	PIENTA OCN	860	870	PIENTA OCN	860	870	
FECHMANN	334.0	342.00	DAIMA SEC	2260.2	2320.2	2320.2	PIENTA OCN	860	870	PIENTA OCN	860	870	PIENTA OCN	860	870	PIENTA OCN	860	870	
GODSCHEID	368.5	372.9	EBRA INFE	1830	1870	1870	PIENTA OCN	860	870	PIENTA OCN	860	870	PIENTA OCN	860	870	PIENTA OCN	860	870	
HARPER	431.0	436.0	EISAI	1890	1900	1900	PIENTA OCN	860	870	PIENTA OCN	860	870	PIENTA OCN	860	870	PIENTA OCN	860	870	
HOECHST AG	295.9	296.6	FUJITSU	1440	1460	1460	SANTO ELEC	880	909	SANTO ELEC	880	909	SANTO ELEC	880	909	SANTO ELEC	880	909</td	

BUSINESS

Iraq starts petroleum exports from southern port

BAGHDAD, Iraq, March 20. (AP): Iraq has started regular exports of petroleum products from its southern port of Khor Al Zubair, the Oil Ministry said today.

A ministry spokesman, who was not identified, said the petroleum products were surplus products from the nearby Basra refinery.

The exports mark the first significant Iraqi oil shipments through the Gulf since the war with Iran broke out in September 1980.

Khor Al Zubair, which was reopened after the Aug 20 ceasefire agreement with Iran halted fighting in the Gulf war, is linked to the Khar Abdulla waterway that runs into the northern Gulf west of the Shatt Al Arab waterway, Iraq's main outlet to the Gulf.

The Basra refinery, heavily

damaged during the 8-year-old Gulf war, resumed partial operations last month after repairs.

The refinery, which had a pre-war capacity of 140,000 barrels a day, is currently producing an estimated 40,000 barrels a day. This is expected to rise to around 70,000 barrels a day soon.

The spokesman did not say what kinds of petroleum products have been exported, but they are believed to be fuel oil and lubricants. Volume is estimated at around 30,000-35,000 barrels a day.

Dispute

The exports are carried in small shuttle tankers to the Jebel Ali storage complex in Dubai in the southern end of the Gulf, where they will be loaded onto bigger tankers for shipment abroad.

Iraq also announced today

that the \$150-million project to build 10 new jetties at the southern port of Um Qasr will be completed by July.

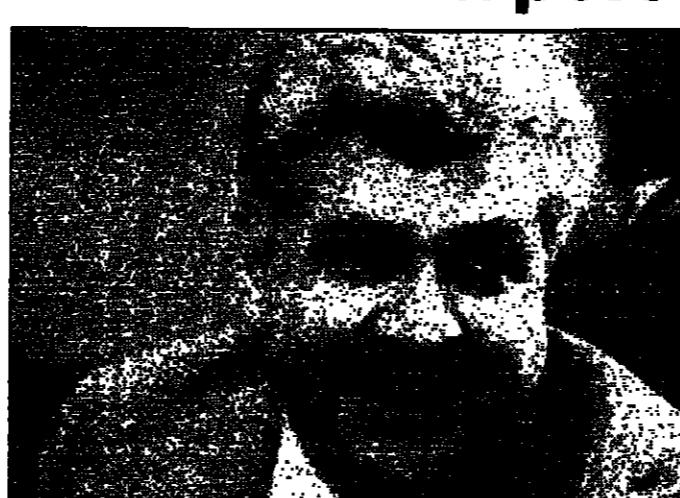
The Shatt Al Arab, the southern boundary between Iraq and Iran, remains closed because of a dispute between the two countries over navigation rights, a problem that has helped deadlock peace talks.

Large tankers are not able to load at Khor Al Zubair because of the shallow waters.

Iraq began irregular small-scale petroleum exports from its Gulf ports immediately after the ceasefire took effect. With tankers of around 20,000 tons carrying exports to Jebel Ali.

Iraq's Gulf tanker routes were closed early in the war, which seriously impaired Iraq's vital oil exports, its economic mainstay.

But Baghdad got around the problem by building pipelines



Issam Al Chalabi

through neighbouring Turkey and Saudi Arabia. It also trucked oil exports through Jordan, to the port of Aqaba, and through Turkey.

Iraqi Oil Minister Issam Al Chalabi said last month that the volume trucked overland will depend on the amount exported through the Gulf.

New funds needed

IMF hopes for quick Mexican debt reduction

WASHINGTON, March 20. (Reuters): The International Monetary Fund (IMF) hopes Mexico will soon kick off the new US plan to slash Third World debt but needs a big increase in capital to implement the initiative in full, monetary officials say.

A senior IMF official, who briefed reporters at the weekend on condition that he not be named, called the US proposal an "historic opportunity" and estimated that it could reduce the amount of bank debt by 20 to 25 per cent within four years.

"We'd be delighted if the first operations could be under way by the summer," the official said.

In addition to Mexico, which the IMF official said was negotiating a medium-term economic programme with the fund, other officials said Venezuela and the Philippines were among the first nations likely to benefit from the plan.

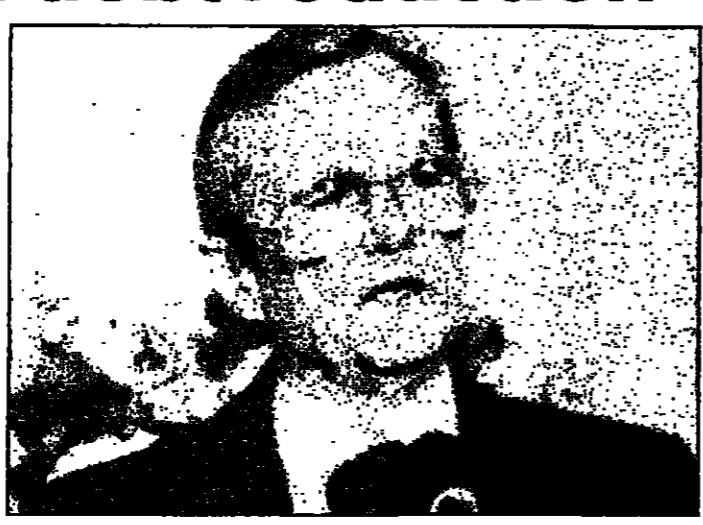
Initiative

But on the eve of the Inter-American Development Bank's annual meeting in Amsterdam, the US initiative sparked concern yesterday among senior bankers and finance officials from both debtor and creditor countries who said excessive expectations were building over the plan's likely success.

Panelists at a seminar on stimulating capital flows to Latin America downplayed the prospects of debt reduction in resolving the region's debt.

"It is seductive and at the same time important to express language that lifts spirits but if the proposals don't offer plain advantages it's not going to work," Eugene Rotberg, former World Bank treasurer and now executive vice-president of Merrill Lynch, said.

Also in Amsterdam, William



Nicholas Brady

Rhodes, chairman of the restructuring committee of Citibank, told reporters yesterday Mexico has not yet approached its creditor banks to set any date for debt restructuring talks.

"The Mexicans have not told me when they hope to start negotiations, nor in what manner," he said.

The US debt-reduction proposal is in line with forecasts by the US Treasury, which hopes the 39 countries that have rescheduled their bank loans since 1982 will cut their debt by 20 per cent, or about \$70 billion, over three years. The Treasury also expects \$20 billion in interest savings.

Warned

But the official warned that the benefit of the plan would be blunted if interest rates stay high. The 15 biggest debtors alone have paid \$10 billion more in interest in the past year.

Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady softened Washington's opposition to quota increase

when he outlined the debt reduction plan on March 10, but in light of budget constraints and the fact that the IMF still has \$45 billion in cash on hand he may not support a rise of more than 50 per cent.

Details of the US initiative will be thrashed out when the world's finance ministers gather here from March 31 to April 4 for their regular spring meeting.

Brady's plan would employ IMF and World Bank loans to developing countries to finance direct debt repurchases and back repayment of principal and interest on the loans that remain.

It marks a fundamental shift from the strategy of his predecessor James Baker, now secretary of state.

The Baker Plan held out the promise of new loans to countries that reformed their economies along market lines. The plan bought time and scored some successes, but it ultimately failed because banks would not lend enough.

Production

The newsletter said that wellhead production by the 12 averaged 17,853 million BPD, indicating a stockbuild of 419,000 BPD.

It noted that the January stockbuild was 700,000 BPD for the 12, with estimated supply for that month at 17.42 million barrels daily and wellhead production at 18.1 million BPD.

The weekly said that the UAE

which was one of the main over-

ers.

President George Bush's bud-

get calls for no new funds for the bank's direct loans in the year

beginning Oct 1. But many mem-

bers of Congress, including

leaders of his own Republican Party, are expected to vote

away for hundreds of millions of dollars.

"Loan demand for 1989 will exceed Eximbank's \$695 million budget authority," Ryan told a conference on export financing.

"In fact, we expect to have to defer some loan authorizations into 1990, just as we did into 1989."

He called the money vitally

important to compete with other

industrial exporting countries,

such as Japan, West Germany,

Britain and France.

Eximbank official seeks more funds

WASHINGTON, March 20. (AP): William F. Ryan, acting president of the US government's Export-Import Bank, appealed on Friday for more money for loans to encourage US exports.

President George Bush's budget calls for no new funds for the bank's direct loans in the year beginning Oct 1. But many members of Congress, including leaders of his own Republican Party, are expected to vote away for hundreds of millions of dollars.

"Severely curtailing Eximbank's export loan programme could impair the competitiveness of a significant portion of the US capital equipment sector, which depends on exports," he said.

"Lost jobs and reduced competitiveness would be the result."

Ryan's bid was echoed by Peter L. Rapuzzi, president of Chase Trade, Inc. He said there had been much talk of small and medium sized exporters leading the growth of US trade.

Over 55 years, Exim has supported nearly \$200 billion worth of US exports through loans, guarantees of commercial bank loans and insurance.

Rapuzzi also urged a larger programme to match the "mixed credits" offered by some exporting governments, which use money appropriated as aid to promote their own exports. Former presidents of Exim, while calling for funds to meet this competition, have denounced it.

Former Dow Jones chairman Kerby dies

BETHLEHEM, Pennsylvania, March 20. (AP): William F. Kerby, a former chairman of Dow Jones and Co., whose career in the newspaper business spanned nearly half a century, died of cancer yesterday at his home here. He was 81.

Kerby was a career newspaperman who held every major position on the news staff of the Wall Street Journal prior to becoming an executive officer at the journal's publisher, Dow Jones and Co., according to a statement from Dow Jones.

"Bill Kerby served Dow Jones with distinction for 47 years in jobs ranging from reporter to chairman and chief executive," said Warren H. Phillips, Dow Jones chairman.

Kerby joined the journal's Washington D.C. staff in 1933. He was managing editor and then executive editor from 1942 to 1951, helping to develop the

front-page news features and other innovations that shaped the modern Wall Street Journal and its growth into a national paper.

Kerby was elected executive vice-president of Dow Jones in 1961, president in 1966, and chairman of the board in 1972. He retired in 1978 but continued to serve on the board of directors until Nov 19, 1980.

As president of Dow Jones and its chairman from 1966 to 1978, he presided over the company's diversification into community newspapers, overseas publishing, electronic information services and other ventures.

His wife, the former Frances Justina Douglass, died in 1986. Surviving are two daughters, Jean Frances Warner and Judith Ann Beckmann, and six grandchildren.

E.Germany shows new flexibility in trade ties

LEIPZIG, East Germany, March 20. (Reuters): East Germany appears to have woken up to changes in world commerce and is becoming more flexible in its foreign trade dealings in contrast to its refusal to reform domestic policy.

Western businessmen at the Leipzig trade fair in mid-March said there was no sign East Berlin was about to loosen its grip on what it exports and imports, but it was responding to changes in the Soviet Union, Western Europe and the Third World.

"A new pragmatism is beginning to shine through," said one Western trade attache.

Diplomats and traders recalled East Germany had in Leipzig announced its first ever joint venture with a foreign company - a Soviet computer software house - and was working more closely with West German firms.

Accords

Up to now East Germany has preferred protocols, long-term accords and a few direct deals with big companies.

"Virtually without exception, Western fair exhibitions have found a greater readiness on the part of the GDR (East Germany)

to give its firms a freer hand in relations with trade partners," the West Berlin daily Tagesspiegel reported.

Businessmen canvassed by Reuters said experts from East German companies had particularly homes in on medium-sized West German firms for co-operation, although they always said any deal would need authorisation from East Berlin.

The new trend appears almost contradictory to East Berlin's reluctance to countenance Soviet-style reform. East Germany says policies it launched in 1971 have been successful and that internal change would be dangerous.

Businessmen said the more open approach evident at the Leipzig fair underscored East Germany's reliance on foreign trade - 50 percent of its national income is derived from exports - and its awareness that it had to change commercial practices to survive.

Explaining why East Berlin switched tack and set up a joint venture, Electronics Ministry spokesman Karl Dietrich told Reuters: "The firm was born out of an objective necessity."

ON February 20, Burgan Bank signed a multi-million dollar medium-term loan with Seychelles Petroleum Company Ltd., in Victoria, Seychelles, to finance the expansion of the company's oil storage facilities.

The expansion will include the building of additional storage tanks on the main island of Mahe, a pipeline between the main storage

and the fuel storage tanks at the international airport, and the construction of additional storage containers on the nearby island of Praslin.

The relationship between Burgan Bank and Seychelles Petroleum Company started in 1986. All of the Seychelles' current commercial purchases of oil are procured from KPC and financed exclusively by Burgan

Bank.

This agreement falls within the framework of the new policy which Burgan Bank is adopting in order to diversify the sources of its income. It also fits into the bank's goal of participating in Kuwait oil exports and to this end the bank is in the process of structuring a number of similar deals with various Islamic, Arab and other countries.

Seen above at the loan signing are (left to right) Livio Lang, managing director, Seychelles Petroleum Company Ltd.; Guy Morel, secretary of state for finance, and chairman of Seychelles Petroleum Company Ltd.; Mohammed Aqeel Tawfiqi, general manager, Burgan Bank and Aubyn Hill, marketing manager Burgan Bank.

Petroleum company, Burgan Bank sign loan pact



Seen above at the loan signing are (left to right) Livio Lang, managing director, Seychelles Petroleum Company Ltd.; Guy Morel, secretary of state for finance, and chairman of Seychelles Petroleum Company Ltd.; Mohammed Aqeel Tawfiqi, general manager, Burgan Bank and Aubyn Hill, marketing manager Burgan Bank.

China gets go-ahead to build petrochemical plant in UAE

DUBAI, March 20. (Agencies): Chinese Vice-Premier Tian Jiyun has given the go-ahead for China to build a large petrochemical plant in Dubai's Jebel Ali free trade zone, in the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

Chinese embassy officials said today that a team would visit Dubai to discuss the scheme, the details of which had not yet been decided.

Tian left the UAE last evening after a four-day visit.

China's trade with the UAE rose to \$160 million in 1988 from around \$60 million in 1986. It is a major importer of fertiliser from the UAE.

Meanwhile, an ambitious experiment to allow Chinese to own their own homes has halted in Yantai, the seaside city because of complaints from powerful officials and austerity policies in Beijing.

Other experiments in housing reform throughout China are also off to a slow start due to exorbitant prices for living space and lack of confidence in the government.

"The policies are in contradiction. We don't know what the future holds," said Qin Shiyu, a housing reform official in Yantai, a breezy town in Shandong province on the Bohai Sea.

In Beijing, apartments cost around 1,850 yuan (\$500) per square metre (\$45 per square foot), meaning that an average college graduate would have to save his total income for 70 years to buy a basic three-room flat.

In crowded Shanghai, prices can be even higher. A recent report by the official Xinhua news agency said living space in a Shanghai neighbourhood amounted to five square metres (\$44 square feet) per person.

"And that's only for the relatively well off," the report said, adding that thousands were living in two square metres (22 square feet) of space.

In Yantai, prices have been more reasonable, and 1,600 homes have been sold in about two years.

Yu Biguo, a worker at the Yantai General Synthetic Leather Factory, was one of the lucky ones. In October, he scraped together his life savings, took out a loan and bought his 55.5-square-metre (600-square-foot) apartment for about 12,000 yuan (\$3,243).

Supplies

UAE oil supplies to Japan were worth about \$6 billion over the period, the envoy said, adding that Japan was buying all the gas produced by Abu Dhabi's two main gas companies, Adgas and Gasco, and most of the output of Dubai's Doggs.

He said Japan held shares in three oil companies operating in Abu Dhabi. He cited their combined value at 120,000 BPD.

Meanwhile trade officials from the United Arab Emirates and Morocco are seeking ways to cut air and maritime transportation costs to boost the flow of products between the two friendly countries.

Proposals to strengthen trade relations were discussed on Thursday between a delegation led by Hamad bin Shihab, president of the Federation of UAE Chambers of Commerce and Industry and Moroccan Minister of Economy and Commerce Abdalla Al Azamani.

Bassam Alghanim hosts dinner



Suzuki method calls the tune

Being a maestro is just child's play!

By Jo Smears

LITTLE Christopher took his violin and placed it expertly under his chin. Then, holding the bow in his right hand he placed it over the strings.

He paused dramatically. Then he started to play a tricky tune ... and never once hit a wrong note.

Yet what made the performance even more remarkable was that Christopher is only four-year-old. Amazingly, he is one of dozens of ordinary young children who are mastering difficult musical works.

For according to Ann Turner of the British Suzuki Institute, playing the violin is child's play for some three and four year olds. And they aren't geniuses. All they need is the opportunity and a little encouragement.

Ann says: "If a child can lift a cup, it can play a musical instrument."

"Each child has tremendous potential from birth. It depends on its environment, whether it is able to develop its musical ability or not."

It is just these ideas that form the basis of the Suzuki method, developed by Dr Shinichi Suzuki. 50 years ago. He believes all children are inherently musical, and that a child should learn music at the same time as he or she develops their language skills.

Just as all children learn to speak their mother tongue with ease, so can they naturally learn to play music too.

Suzuki teacher, Ann Turner, from Radlett in Herts, explains: "We're not out to create great musicians, although many do emerge along the way."

"Our aim is to make a happy, successful human being, who is in control of himself, who has his own self-esteem and can then turn his hand confidently to anything."

Environment

"Of course, creating the correct environment for a child to learn music, requires a lot of effort from the parents. They have to be totally committed. They have to come to every lesson and be free to work with the child every day at home. And because the fathers are usually working during the day, it is usually the mother who comes along."

As babies, Suzuki children are played pieces of music they will later be playing themselves during the lessons. This not only familiarises them with music, but helps them to enjoy it.

Ann explains: "Lessons start off at the age of three or four. Up to the age of seven, a child is at its most receptive and can learn the most."

"At that age their lives aren't occupied with school either. They have close bond still with their parents and are happy to work alongside them."

The Suzuki method also calls for the parents to learn the fundamentals of music. That way they

can help the child at home and understand the difficulties he or she might have.

Ann says: "We start off with the mother having a 15 minute lesson and the child a ten minute lesson. Eventually this balance changes until the child takes the whole lesson."

"But the children usually outstrip their parents in no time at all. Show a child something ten times and they can pick it up, but with an adult it takes thousands."

Back at home, the mother and child recap what they have learned in the lesson, practising in short bursts.

Proud mother Jenny Lera, whose four-year-old son Christopher is already playing complicated pieces of music, says: "Christopher usually practises twice a day for about 15 minutes. It is hard work but he does enjoy it and I'm amazed by what he can achieve."

And while Jenny and Christopher practise, nine-month-old baby Phillipa listens from her carrycot, in preparation for her lessons that she will soon start.

Ann adds: "Children gradually build up a repertoire of songs which they will never forget ... just like learning a language."

But some parents, Ann says, do come to her with the wrong idea, expecting their young son or daughter to be turned into a music prodigy. They soon learn however that little maestros are not what Suzuki is after.

Ann explains: "They quickly find out that the Suzuki method isn't just another piano teaching technique. It's a philosophy, it's the fulfilment and education of the whole child which is important."

"Dr Suzuki is just as happy if one of his children become a successful judge or doctor, as if he becomes a musician."

"After all if you can discipline children to study music, they will be able to study well at school, too."

Every few weeks, the Suzuki children get together for a group session to play in an orchestra. The idea is that they will develop a greater self-confidence by playing in front of people.

But while the children aren't expected to become great musicians, they ARE expected to reach a high standard. For, according to Suzuki, all children are happier when they are able to live up to high standards and gain self-respect.

Dr Suzuki himself was the son of the owner of the world's biggest violin factory. But he didn't learn to play the violin until he was much older when he took lessons in Berlin from musician Karl Klinger. It was then that he developed his own theory about playing.

He saw that the happy, relaxed and natural way of teaching a child to speak was the most successful educational process — and this was how music should be.

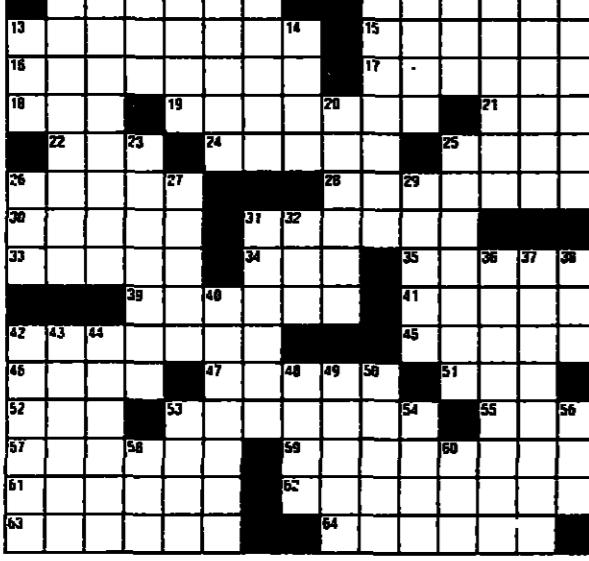
They may be only three or four years old, but already many ordinary youngsters have mastered how to play difficult pieces of music. They are not geniuses either ... but students believe that if children can lift a cup, they can play a musical instrument.



Three-year-old Helen plays a mini cello, inset (above) Suzuki children playing at the 1987 International Opera festival and (left), Dr Suzuki.



TODAY'S CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- Continuity interruption
- Help
- Brightly colored handkerchief
- Tot's toy
- Kind of well
- Lass and lassie
- Metric measure
- Machine-gunned
- Lacelike fabric
- Anger
- Start
- Neighbor of Brighton
- A letter...
- Intolerant
- Mesa or Brava beginning
- Capital of Tasmania
- "Laughing" 1967 movie
- Veneration
- Soaring
- More intrusive
- Ancient weight units
- Dabble in or babble
- of robins in
- Counterweight
- Alphabet sequence
- Chemical sulfite
- Farmers, e.g.
- The Lion
- Half gallon container
- All
- Arrange beforehand
- Up-front fee for services
- Palestinian of old
- Scraped or grated

DOWN

- A Ford
- Bonus
- Hoosier humorist George
- Soviet press agency
- Individual groups
- Entrap or entangle
- Area in the news
- Mediterranean port
- Hwys.
- "my fault"
- Garnet part
- Assayed
- Cote cry
- Art school sub.
- Tale-teller
- International understanding
- word
- Direct emergency wire
- Cooler
- Pictorial playing card
- Pasture grass
- Pageboy or pompadour
- Be beholden to
- The Desert Song
- Fixed firmly
- Asian holiday
- Conceal
- Treeless tract
- Some bigwigs' dogs
- Rugged ridges
- Pitcher
- Crave
- Margaret
- Hidden hollow
- Leon ladies: Abb.
- Wordsworth word
- Mao — Tung
- Hound sound

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

P	A	C	I	T	A	P	E	R	B	L	O	W
E	C	H	O	S	U	G	A	R	L	A	N	E
G	R	I	N	D	S	T	O	N	E	A	S	T
S	E	P	E	E	T	R	A	C	T	O	R	T
M	I	S	D	E	A	L	N	E	S	T	E	D
G	I	L	T	S	P	E	T	A	S	T	E	D
O	L	I	O	T	S	A	T	E	S	T	E	D
E	L	A	N	D	N	O	S	E	N	T	E	D
R	E	D	E	M	N	O	S	E	N	T	E	D
H	E	A	P	S	S	E	N	T	E	N	T	E
R	E	V	E	R	S	E	N	T	E	N	T	E
A	M	E	N	S	T	O	N	E	B	R	O	K
R	I	N	G	E	T	N	A	S	I	R	A	N
E	T	T	E	E	S	Y	E	N	S	A	N	T

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

A CASE FOR A USELESS DISCARD

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♦ 10 7 4 3
♥ Q J
♦ Q 7 5
♠ K 8 2

WEST
♦ A 5
♥ 9 6 4 3
♦ A 8 5 2
♠ A 8 4 2

EAST
♦ 6 2
♥ A 8 5 2
♦ K 9 6 3
♠ 9 7 4

SOUTH
♦ K Q 9 8
♥ K 10 7
♦ J 10
♠ A Q J 5

The bidding:
South West North East
1 NT Pass 2 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Three of ♠

In an attempt to steal his contract, South indulged in a bit of fancy discarding. But there was no reason to buy the illusion when the reality was there for all to see.

The auction was straightforward. North planned to issue a game invitation until South responded with spades to his Stayman inquiry. He then decided that his five-card suit merited a direct raise to game—a questionable decision in view of his

soft values.
West led his fourth-best heart. East won the ace and returned the suit. Declarer took his king and continued with the ten, discarding a club from dummy. Next, declarer led the king of trumps.

West grabbed the ace and, impressed by declarer's unseemly haste in taking a club discard, switched to the ten of clubs. Declarer won the king, drew the outstanding trumps and then discarded two of dummy's diamonds on high clubs. He was, therefore, able to ruff a diamond loser on the table, and ended up losing only one trick in each suit except clubs.

There was no good reason for West to be taken in by declarer's chicanery. His ace of diamonds would complete the book, so the defenders needed just one more trick to set the contract. Since declarer couldn't possibly get rid of two more clubs from dummy in a hurry, there was no need for the desperation shift to a club.

West should first have cashed the ace of diamonds. If East had no hope in that suit, he would furnish a low diamond and there was still plenty of time to shift to a club. But if East held the diamond king ... Curtains.

THE WIZARD OF ID

B.C.



By Johnny Hart

BONG BONG BONG
BONG BONG
BONG BONG BONG
BONG BONG
BONG BONG BONG



YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

You should not allow yourself to be intimidated. The Sun's better influence will help you to deal some rather sad news. Make sure you do not waste time or squander your energies. Do not give away a secret. Be less supercilious.



Cancer (June 21 - July 22)

A mistake you have been making is due to the fact that you are not being sufficiently methodical. Do not commit yourself to something you will find virtually impossible to carry out. A friend will need and appreciate your solace.



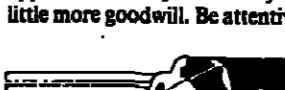
Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)

If you lose your temper either with yourself or others you will only make matters worse. Do not be afraid to face up to the consequences of your actions. Think first before committing yourself to a high expense. Be fair.



Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

You will be in good form but rather too liable to act on impulse. Do give a friend a ring he will appreciate it. Try to show just a little more goodwill. Be attentive.



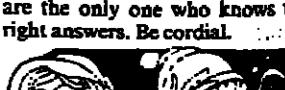
Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

You will tend to spend too much time dealing with secondary matters. Try to do one thing thoroughly rather than two superficially. Do not let others persuade you to do something against your better judgement. Be cautious.



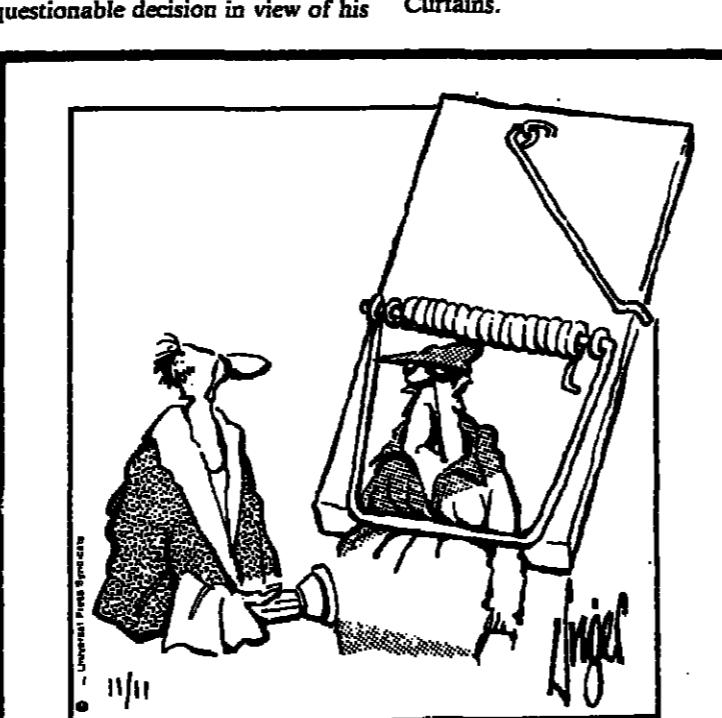
Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

You will be able to deal with a matter you have been putting to one side. You should leave yourself with a little time to attend to a personal matter. Avoid wasting time and do not dissipate your energies. Be tactful.



Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)

You should ensure that you get sufficient exercise, do not be lazy. The Sun's better influence will help you to deal with a personal problem. Make sure you do not neglect your personal hygiene. Be moderate.



"You'll be hearing from my lawyer."

Arab Times

Love letters to Mussolini

Dear darling Benito ...

By Jill Serjeant

ROME, (Reuters): Countesses, nuns, schoolgirls, peasants — the women of Italy wrote to Benito Mussolini in their thousands.

Many, besotted by the fascist dictator's charisma, were answered with an impudent summons to his palace for a brusque sexual encounter.

And with the same mania for order that

ARAB TIMES Classifieds

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HAWALLI, opp. the Shaab Garden, accommodation with tele. facilities, for a lady, to share with a Goat family. Close to bus routes 14, 18, 37, 102. Tele. 2621275. (AT4-46551-3)

For Rent

OMARIYA, House with 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen and telephone. Tele. 4733110. 4714305. (AT4-MAM-TM-7)

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Boats

SURFBOARDS, one allround fun-board floater, complete with sail, etc. KD250. one Windglider "Olympic class", complete with various sales, KD150. Tele. Mr Rudi, 2413524, 5719941. (AT4-46524-2)

SPRING is up, buy a family boat. Hammock, 18ft, 175hp, inboard, complete with 5 skis, 2 propellers, trailer and shower. KD1,500 fixed price). Tele. Mr Rudi, 2413524, 5719941. (AT4-46524-2)

Cars

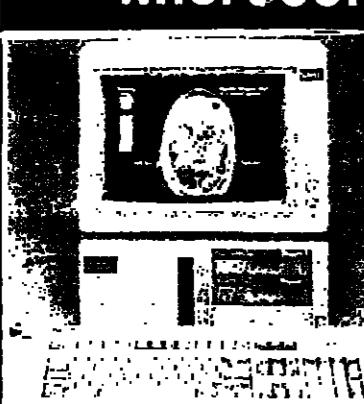
CHEVROLET Caprice Classic, 1987, AC, automatic, metallic grey, 20,000 kms in excellent condition. KD3,500, obo, cash. Tele. 2422925, 5718812, 9.30 am - 12.30 pm, 5-8 pm. (AT4-46541-2)

NISSAN Liberta, 1983, fully automatic, beige colour, with new tyres, registered up to Feb 1990, in good condition. KD725 cash. Tele. 3985008 off, 3718421, res. (AT4-46572-3)

MERCEDES 230, 1977 model, automatic, insured up to October 1989, in good condition. KD1,200. Tele. 4743133, 8 am - 2 pm. (AT4-46561-3)

MERCEDES 230E, '84 model, first registered in May 1985, well maintained by a German engineer. Tele. 5719941, 2413524. (AT4-46524-2)

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286 16 MHz
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TOYOTA Corona, 1982 (late model), automatic, registered up to Feb 1990, with new tyres. AC, quartz watch and extra fan, in very good condition. KD935. Tele. 2461135, ext. 267. (AT4-TM-3)

ROVER 3500, 1983 model, white, fully automatic, with sunroof, smoked glass, full options, in mint condition. Owner leaving Kuwait. KD1,750 obo. Tele. 2436222. (AT2-46551-3)

CURTAINS, carpet, Philips tumble dryer, lots of plants and gardening materials, etc. for immediate sale. Owner leaving Kuwait. Tele. 5389072, 4 - 6 pm. (AT4-46554-3)

Furniture

LOCAL-MADE, 8-seater wooden sofa set, 3 pieces, and a new sofa set (1 big and 1 small) for sale. KD1,300. Tele. Mr Issa, 5634200. (AT4-46556-3)

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REQUIRED for a single person from Salimiya, near the New Garden to Fahheel, Sultan Center, one way, to reach at 8.30 am. Tele. Mr Kapil, 3920291, 8.30 am - 5.30 pm only. (AT2-46534-3)

DRIVER required for a Kuwaiti person. Must have Kuwaiti driving licence. Tele. 4841312, (2-5 pm), 2409311, (6-9.30 pm). (AT2-46521-3)

MAID required, Filipino, for a small family to live in. Must speak good English. Tele. 5743169. (AT3-46543-3)

DRIVER required for a Kuwaiti family. Must have a Kuwaiti driving licence. Tele. 3912396, 3938289. (AT2-46525-3)

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Bangladeshi cleaning workers for a large laundry.

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DRIVERS: Having valid Kuwaiti driving licence.

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2406593

(AT2-46515-3)

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SPORTS

Pete Nierva leads in bowling tournament

FIRST round leader Pete Nierva finished out another fine performance and emerged still on top with a total score of 1187 pf after the second elimination round of the Alghanim Freight Open bowling tournament. Just five pins behind the pace setter is Nafez Akhras with 1182 followed by Mar Evangelista with 1166.

The high game of the day came from Malaysia's Victor Choong with a score of 229 pf while Mar Evangelista finally showed his true form by submitting the high series with a total of 644 pf for three games.

In the women's, the day belonged to Cora Paras who outshone everyone by scoring both the high game (202) and the high series (540). The top five qualifiers for the women's who will vie for the championship via the step ladder system are as follows in order of their final standing:

Bhe Guiamoy, Eva Sabay, Cora Paras, Aileen Boncillo, and Mercy Laborce.

For the men's division the top six qualifiers are as follows also in order of their standing after six games: Pete Nierva, Nafez Akhras, Mar Evangelista, Joe Bilos, Hameed Qabandi, Tony Lascos, Nelson Guillermo Victor Choong, Bhenne Guiamoy, Mohd. Darwish, Rico Pino, George Gaerlan, Ahmed Otaibi, Nonoy Maramba, Hashat Mohd., Munib Hamdan, Samir Peter, Mansour Shatti, Mars Balisi, Hashem Mousa, Anukul, Mohd. Serai, Homer Mesina and Edwin Nepomuceno.

All the qualifiers should be at the venue at exactly 9:00, Friday, March 31 and late comers will automatically forfeit their chance for the next qualifying round.

In other developments the PBAK membership drive is in full swing and all interested parties can contact the following: Pete Nierva, Lynne Reyes and Aileen Boncillo. PBAK President Rico Pino is urging all the bowlers to register or renew their membership now so as to avail themselves of all the benefits the association is giving to its members. The bowling centres will also start to ask for membership cards for anyone to have free entrance and discounted rates for the games played.

General Director Arthur Reyes wants to remind all the qualifiers of the 2nd Alghanim Freight Open bowling tournament that the games will take a break this coming week in observance of the holy week and will resume on March 31 at 9:00 am.

The remaining scheduled games are 9:00 am — top 24 for men; 1:00 pm — top 12 for men; 4:00 pm — step ladder championship for the top 5 women; 5:00 pm — step ladder championship for the top 5 men.

Swimming record

STOCKHOLM, March 20, (Reuter): A Swedish team set a world record in the 4x100 metres short course relay last night in the Swedish National Championships in Malmo with a time of three minutes, 14 seconds.

Anders Holmertz, Joakim Holmqvist, Tommy Werner and Michael Soderland beat the previous record in a 25-metre pool of 3.15.07 set last June by a Soviet team in Monte Carlo.

The race was a specially staged record attempt featuring Sweden's four fastest freestyle swimmers.

Liverpool to meet Forest in action replay

Everton to take on winners of Wednesday's FA Cup quarterfinal

LONDON, March 20, (Reuter): Liverpool and Nottingham Forest were drawn on Monday to meet in an English FA Cup semifinal that will be an action replay of their clash at the same stage last year.

A year ago two John Aldridge goals gave Liverpool a 2-1 win but they were then beaten by Wimbledon in the final. This time, with Forest unbeaten in 18 games and Liverpool having won five in a row, there are no doubts about the rematch.

In the other semifinal Everton will take on the winners of Wednesday's quarterfinal replay between Norwich and West Ham, who drew 0-0 on Saturday.

Incentive

The draw is an extra incentive to West Ham, who beat Everton in the semifinals on their way to the final of the Simod Cup where they will meet Forest.

The draw means that Liverpool and Everton, near neighbours and long-time rivals, could meet in an FA Cup final for only the second time in the competition's 117-year history. Liverpool won 3-1 in 1986.

The matches will be played on the weekend of April 15 and 16.

Forest's long-serving manager

Brian Clough, still looking for his first FA Cup triumph as player or manager, saw his team extend their impressive unbeaten run by beating Manchester United 1-0 in their quarter-finals on Saturday.

But Liverpool showed on the same day that they are approaching their best form as they demolished third-division Brentford 4-0 with two goals from Peter Beardale.

A Forest victory would put them into their third Wembley final. They have already reached the finals of the League Cup and Simod Cup, a competition open to first and second division clubs.

Disappointing

Everton have had a disappointing season in the League by their standards, although they are in the final of the Simod Cup where they will meet Forest.

Captain Kevin Ratcliffe stressed after Sunday's 1-0 win over Wimbledon how important it was for Everton to keep pace with Liverpool — and their supporters will be hoping for the opportunity to take revenge for the 1986 defeat.

Everton were beaten 1-0 by Liverpool in the fifth-round last

year at Goodison Park. The club, who have appeared in ten finals and won the competition four times, last lifted the trophy in 1984 by beating Watford. They reached the final for the next two years but lost on both occasions, to Manchester United and Liverpool.

West Ham last won the cup in 1980, beating Arsenal 1-0. The only survivor from that side is goalkeeper Phil Parkes, who returned to first team action after a two-year absence for this season's fifth round.

Replay

If John Lyall's side can win Wednesday's replay at Carrow Road, they will face a repeat of the 1980 semifinal when they beat Everton 2-1 in a replay.

West Ham will be seeking to lift the cup for the fourth time. They have lost only one final, in 1923.

Norwich, who are also strong contenders for the League title, are aiming for only their second semifinal appearance.

They reached the last four as a third-division side in 1959 when they were beaten by Luton in a replay. Luton went on to lose against Forest at Wembley.



Aldridge

After Monday's draw Liverpool were installed as favourites by London bookmakers at odds of 6-4 with Everton 3-1 and Nottingham Forest 100-30.

West Ham are 25-1 outsiders

and their double-chasing replay opponents Norwich 4-1.

A 59th minute goal by midfielder Stuart McCall proved decisive in a dour and physically-competitive quarterfinal at Ever-

ton. Everton enjoyed most of the possession and might have won more convincingly had Scottish striker Graeme Sharp not failed to score from a ninth minute penalty.

Dived

The spookick was awarded when Wimbledon striker John Fashanu handled during a spell of Everton pressure. Wimbledon's Dutch goalkeeper Hans Segers dived low to his right to make the save.

Wimbledon, who beat Liverpool 1-0 to unexpectedly lift the Cup last year, created several openings of their own without seriously troubling Everton's Welsh international goalkeeper Neville Southall.

The winning goal came when midfielder Paul Bracewell burst past two tackles in the area, Irish midfielder Kevin Sheedy crossed and McCall stabbed the ball home from close range.

Menzo made another impres-

sive save at the start of the second half as Romario headed on a pass from Gerald Vanenburg but an Ajax counter attack virtually decided the match.

Richard Witsche, who

PSV Eindhoven suffer another crushing blow

AMSTERDAM, March 20, (Reuter): PSV Eindhoven suffered another crushing blow on Sunday, thrashed 4-1 by Ajax just four days after their European Cup exit.

PSV badly needed a boost

after Real Madrid ended their hopes of retaining the European crown. Instead, visitors Ajax inflicted PSV's first home defeat in the League for more than five years.

Ajax, anxious to avenge an embarrassing Cup defeat by Groningen last week, took an 11th minute lead when Surinam-born midfielder Aron Winter scored from a corner.

PSV managed to apply real pressure only in the final quarter of the first half but were thwarted by goalkeeper Stanley Menzo.

He saved a brilliant header from Hans Gillhaus and followed up by calmly stopping a close range shot by Brazilian striker Romario.

Save

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beldon's Dutch goalkeeper Hans Segers dived low to his right to make the save.

Menzo made another impres-

sive save at the start of the second half as Romario headed on a pass from Gerald Vanenburg but an Ajax counter attack virtually decided the match.

Richard Witsche, who

replaced veteran international Arnold Muehren at left midfield, hit the post in the 53rd minute and as the ball bounced back Swedish striker Stephen Pettersson headed home.

Ajax went further ahead in the 65th minute when Aron Winter converted a corner.

PSV missed several chances. Ronald Koeman had one of his scorching free-kicks tipped over by Menzo and Gillhaus hit the post 13 minutes from time.

Lucker

Gillhaus was luckier minutes later when he took control of a long pass by Koeman and worked it past Lloyd Doesburg who replaced Menzo when the goalkeeper suffered a leg injury in the 80th minute.

Midfielder Berry van Aerle felled Ajax striker Dennis Bergkamp in the penalty area and Mark Verkuyl converted the spookick.

PSV, unbeaten at home in the League since September 1983, last lost a home game to Ajax 11 years ago.

But the Eindhoven side should still secure their fourth consecutive title because they remained four points ahead of second-placed Ajax.

Richard Witsche, who

Inter widen League title lead

ROME, March 20, (UPI): Internazionale di Milan widened its lead in Italian soccer League standings Sunday to four points over second-place Napoli by defeating Sampdoria 1-0.

Inter's victory put it within one step of securing the Italian League championship now held by Milan.

The Neapolitan side, deprived of injured Argentinian striker Diego Maradona, meanwhile was held to a 1-1 draw playing low-ranked Lazio in Rome's Olympic stadium.

After Sunday's action Inter led the table with 38 points. Napoli held second place with 34, AC Milan at 28 and Juventus of Turin with 26.

"We didn't put on our usual pressure up front," said Napoli

coach Ottavio Bianchi after the disappointing game. "Maradona? Obviously for us he is important."

Another factor was fatigue after Napoli's tough but winning UEFA Cup match against Juventus last week. Maradona was substituted at the beginning of extra time for exhaustion.

Lead

The Neapolitan team took an early lead as Maurizio Neri scored in the 19th, but then eased up the pressure. Lazio levelled 12 minutes later on a boot by Spaniard Ruben Sosa.

Fourth-ranked Milan, like Napoli, was held to a draw in its game with 10th-place Verona.

Benfica snatch a lucky win

LISBON, March 20, (Reuter): Benfica scored twice in the last three minutes yesterday to snatch a lucky win over Leixoes and stay on course for the Portuguese title.

After weak play in the first period, Israel came to dominate the second half and almost scored a game-winning goal in the last four minutes as Ron Rosenthal drove to within 20 metres of Australia's goal.

But defender Wally Savor slammed into Rosenthal, ending Israel's hopes and getting himself a red card.

Israel was unable to take advantage of Australia's weakened position and the game ended in a tie.

Australia tie with Israel to take lead

RAMAT GAN, Israel, March 20, (AP): In a game plagued with penalties the Australian national team tied Israel 1-1 to take the lead in the World Cup's Oceania Division.

Israel's forward, Eli Ohana, scored the game's first goal on a penalty shot in the 67th minute and almost scored a game-winning goal in the last four minutes as Ron Rosenthal drove to within 20 metres of Australia's goal.

After partner each other to a 15-1, 15-9 victory in the mixed, they went their separate ways with equal successes. Park and Lee Sang Bek defeated Indonesians Rudy Ganawan and Eddy Hartono 15-1, 15-9 in the men's doubles, and Chung Myung Hee and Chung So Young took the women's event by beating China's Sun Xiaoqing and Zhou Lei 15-7, 15-4.

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"We didn't play all the time on

the highest level, but the result is positive and we got our points," said Australia's coach Frank Arak.

After weak play in the first period, Israel came to dominate the second half and almost scored a game-winning goal in the last four minutes as Ron Rosenthal drove to within 20 metres of Australia's goal.

In the dying seconds, Pacheco scored from a penalty to keep Benfica six points clear of champions Porto, who beat Fafe 1-0.

Bandeirinha scored Porto's goal with a 30-metre shot in the 15th minute, but with only eight games left time appears to have run out for the champions who have already been knocked out of the Cup.

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SPORTS**SPORTS BRIEFS****Gulf Air Trophy**

KIFCO will meet their traditional rivals Starlite Cricket Club in the finals of Gulf Air Trophy at Sabah Al Salem Area (N.C.) ground on Friday.

This 45 overs a side full-day match will start at 9.00 am. Each bowler is allowed to bowl a maximum of nine overs in the match which will be supervised by umpires from Evergreen Cricket Club.

Saleh Issa Kindy, Area Manager of Gulf Air will be the chief guest and will distribute prizes. Man of the Match will be awarded with a return ticket to London, Karachi, Bombay or Colombo, according to the choice of the winner.

Saudi Arabia win

SANAA, March 20. (Reuter): Saudi Arabia beat North Yemen 1-0 (halftime 0-0) in the World Cup West Asia first round. Group Two soccer qualifier here today.

Scorer: Ahmed Jamil (79th min)

Standings

	Team	W	L	D	GF	GA	GD	Points
1.	Saudi Arabia	2	0	0	6	4	+2	6
2.	Syria	2	1	0	1	5	-5	5
3.	North Yemen	2	0	2	0	2	0	4
4.	Results: March 10 North Yemen 0 Syria 1, March 15 Saudi Arabia 5 Syria 4, Remaining matches: March 25 Syria v North Yemen, March 26 Syria v Saudi Arabia, April 5 Saudi Arabia v North Yemen							

Half marathon

ROME, March 20. (AP): British runner Carl Thackery led from start to finish yesterday to win the 15th annual "Roma-Ostia" half marathon.

The 27-year-old Thackery covered the 21.1-kilometre (13-mile) distance from the Italian capital to the seaside resort in one hour, two minutes and nine seconds.

Ice hockey

SYDNEY, March 20. (AP): China rallied from down two goals at the end of the second period to score a 3-3 draw with underdog Bulgaria in round-robin play today in the C pool World Ice Hockey Championship.

Chinese captain Wang Anfu and Liu Wenwu, who scored twice, played brilliantly in the last period to secure the draw.

Senna fastest

RIO DE JANEIRO, March 20. (AP): Reigning Formula-1 world champion Ayrton Senna of Brazil posted the quickest overall time yesterday, the last day of week-long track testing for Brazilian Grand Prix, which starts March 26.

Bridge results

RESULTS of Westminster system 17 bridge game held on March 12 at the Regency Palace hotel.

N/S
1. Khurshed Zulfiqari & Abdul Sattar
2. Mamnoon Sabri & Sand El Said
3. Magdi Mesdari & Adel Bayoumi

E/W
1. (a) Jaya Sapre & Narendra Shah
(b) Mohammed Merchant & J. Darko

2. Dhruba Mukherjee & Rani Bhat
Results of the bridge game played on March 19:

N/S
1. (a) Nahil Akel & Mohammad Al Baz
(b) Shreya Bafouni & Ahmed Hacidy

3. Magdi Mesdari & Adel Bayoumi

E/W
1. Jaya Sapre & Narendra Shah
2. Sudhir Dumra & Malcolm Monteiro

3. Dhruba Mukherjee & Rani Bhat
Results of Regency Ladies Bridge Club games held last Sunday.

1. Lollo Muthwaike & Nahil Akel
2. Bianca Mousalli & Fatima Aboljohain

3. (a). Jamila Akel & Margaret Whitaker

(b). Suhendan Oskay & Nida Khalaf

Hubara Centre Bridge club games held on March 19:

N/S
1. Nahil Akel & Narendra Shah
2. Aurora & Ghazal Gajjar
3. Ghazi & Yaseen

E/W
1. Jaya Sapre & D. Pereira
2. Omar & Qaddoura

3. Razem & Kamal

Results of Hubara Bridge Club game held on last Saturday.
N/S
1. Nahil Akel & Narendra Shah
(b). Sultan Ali & Salmas Ali
3. Kamal Arafeh & Mohammed Kadoura

E/W
1. Camelia Guirguis & George Masoud
2. Matrouk & Rasem

3. Sudhir Dumra & Chandra Sekhar
Results of Messiah Ladies Bridge Club games.

1. Lollo Muthwaike & Nahil Akel
2. Jamila Akel & Nada Alammudin

3. Suhendan Oskay & Nida Khalaf

Results of SAS Ladies Bridge Club game.

1. Clara Basirie & Dina Materny
2. Houde Tann & Camille Tann

3. Raba Abboushi & Helen Hughes

Results of the SAS Bridge Club games played on Sunday.

1. Helen Hughes & Nida Khalaf
2. Nahil Akel & Lollo Muthwaike

3. Nada Alammudin & Fatima Aboljohain

Noah beaten in five sets Mecir battles back to win Indian Wells

INDIAN WELLS, Calif., March 20. (Reuter): Milos Mecir came back from two sets down to beat a hard-serving Yannick Noah 3-6 2-6 6-1 2-6 3 yesterday in the final of the \$702,500 Indian Wells Grand Prix tennis tournament.

The 12th-seeded Noah, who pounded in 22 aces against his seventh-seeded opponent, double-faulted at match point to end the contest after nearly three hours.

Mecir collected \$135,000 for half that amount as runner-up. **Attacking**
"I thought he already had me but I just didn't want to give it up," said Mecir. "I was mixing it up a little too much but then I realised it was better if I was attacking more."

Noah, a four-time finalist here

and champion in 1982, began dynamically with his serve-and-volley game in high gear.

Riding his sizzling serve, Noah raced through the opening two sets and easily dominated a sleepy-looking Mecir.

But the Czechoslovak turned the momentum around in the first game of the third set as he began to come to the net more often. He saved three break points against him and went on to break the Frenchman twice with passing shots to clinch the set 6-1.

A brilliant lob gave Mecir a break for 2-1 in the fourth set and he broke Noah again for a 4-1 on a passing shot as he evened the best-of-five match at two sets apiece.

The Frenchman seemed to regain his drive in the fifth set, but his surge was halted when

Mecir made another service break in the fifth game with a blazing backhand crosscourt return.

Double fault

Mecir held easily to reach 5-3 and then broke Noah for the match when the Frenchman served up the double fault.

Mecir's change of tactics, from groundstrokes to serve-and-volley, did not surprise Noah.

"When I was up two sets I was expecting him to do something different," Noah said. "He started to play totally different tennis. What makes his game special is that he can do a lot of different things. He can adjust his game."

Noah said that a lack of conditioning let him down.

"When I'm tired I'm not as quick," said Noah, who rested his sore knees and took his two children to Disneyland rather

than practice before the tournament.

"I was a little slow and tired and my game requires more energy than his because his technique is better."

Errors

Noah, playing in his first tournament final in more than a year, had 30 unforced errors to Mecir's 26.

"I had a little bit of a letdown in the middle of the third set," Noah said. "I started playing much better. He was more aggressive. I knew when I was up two sets to expect him to do something different. I got slow and tired for a while. It was hot."

In the doubles final, Boris Becker of West Germany and Jakob Hlasek of Switzerland beat Kevin Curren and David Pate of the United States, 7-6 (7-5), 7-5.



Crew member Robert Calicut of the Richard Petty STP team falls to the ground after gasoline from the race car catches fire in Hampton, Georgia on Sunday. Calicut is reported to be in stable but guarded condition with burns over 50 per cent of his body. (Reuter wirephoto)

Graf overcomes Evert to maintain winning streak

BOCA RATON, Fla., March 20. (Reuter): Steffi Graf won her fourth straight tournament and extended her 1989 unbeaten streak to 22 matches with a hard-fought win over Chris Evert in the final of the Florida Tennis Championship yesterday.

Graf, after losing her first set of the year, bounced back to beat Evert 4-6 6-2 6-3 and claim the \$60,000 first prize.

Evert settled for \$24,000 and missed an opportunity to reclaim her world number three ranking from Argentine Gabriela Sabatini, who moved up two weeks ago. A win would have moved Evert past Sabatini, a third-round loser here.

Strategy

Graf, whose 1989 titles include the Australian Open, was bothered by Evert's strategy as the American veteran took pace off her shots and hit the ball down the middle of the court.

Evert won the first set by converting her second break point of the set in the seventh game when Graf, who double-faulted twice in that game, netted a forehand off a sizzling backhand from Evert.

The West German broke quickly in the second game of the second set to lead 2-0 as Evert began to make more unforced errors. She broke again in the eighth game when Evert netted two backhands after double-faulting.

The two traded service breaks at love in the opening games of the third set and worked their



way to the eighth game on serve when Evert let a 40-15 lead slip away and Graf won the final eight points of the match.

Graf now leads Evert 7-6 in career meetings.

Satisfied

"I'm satisfied to win the match. I didn't feel as good as the other days. I didn't have the feeling I usually do, but I don't know why," Graf said.

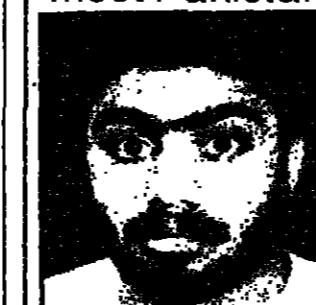
Evert said that breaking Graf's 42-set winning streak was satisfying but added that she

thought she could have won the match.

"I was happy that I won the first set, but in the third set at 3-3, I realised she was very beatable today. In the third set maybe she was hitting the angles a little sharper and I felt I was doing all the running," Evert said.

In the doubles final, Helena Sukova and Jana Novotna of Czechoslovakia, the second seeded team, downed Jo Durie of Great Britain and Mary Joe Fernandez of Miami, 6-4, 6-2.

Kuwait to meet Pakistan



Khaled Ashkanani

THE Kuwait national tennis team is currently preparing for its second round of matches in the Davis Cup. The Kuwaiti team will meet Pakistan during the period from April 7-9 at Yarmouk courts.

This is the first time that Kuwait has played in the Davis Cup competition. In their first match, Kuwait beat Jordan.

The national team consists of 5 players: Khaled Hasan, Khaled Ashkanani, Ayman Al Ashwak, Hashem Salem and Walid Al Banai.

Kite retains Players golf title

Orlando Invitational. The \$243,000 he won here put him on top of the earnings list with \$561,723.

In Paris, Spain, Briton Mark Roe won his first European golf tour title yesterday when he beat close rival Jose-Maria Olazabal of Spain by one shot to win the Catalunya Open.

Overnight leader Roe holed a bunker shot at the 16th to set up his triumph. He finished with a final round of 71 for a 13-under-par total of 279.

Only seven players in the field of 74 bettered par.

"Over the years I know people have said I'm a conservative player," Kite said. "But in my own mind, I've always been as aggressive as I've had to be."

Bruce Lietzke, the second-round leader, shot 72 to finish at 281, with Australian Greg Norman and American Fred Couples another shot back at six-under 282.

The win for Kite was the 12th of his career and came on the heels of his playoff victory over compatriot Davis Love III in the

back side to finish with a 14-under-par 274 total.

"I can't tell you how thrilled I am to be here today," Garbacz said in accepting the winner's cheque for \$45,000. "Once I got through the front nine I felt good because I'd played the back nine more consistently all week."

Nancy Lopez fired a five-under-par 67 to finish alone in second at 10-under 278. "I made more puts today than yesterday," she said. "That was the whole difference."

Marta Nause, who led the tournament the first two days, started the final round two strokes behind third-round leader Garbacz but by the midway point the two were tied at 13-under.

But Nause bogeyed four holes over the back nine before managing a birdie on the final hole to finish in a four-way tie for third place with Kristi Albers, Jody Rosenthal and Australian Jan Stephenson.

Garbacz, an 11-year veteran, said she was relieved to have finally won a tournament.

Al Muhaissen

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